

Rumsfeld quits as U.S. Mideast envoy

WASHINGTON (R) — Donald Rumsfeld has resigned as special U.S. envoy to the Middle East to return to his business interests, the White House announced Friday. Spokesman Larry Speakes said Rumsfeld would not name a new envoy to replace him. Rumsfeld, a former defense secretary, was appointed to his Middle East post last November to succeed Philip Habib. There are no active negotiations currently for an overall Middle East settlement or to resolve the situation in Lebanon, from which the United States completed a withdrawal of peacekeeping forces in February. Mr. Rumsfeld said in a letter to Mr. Reagan that he was returning to his job as president of G.D. Searle, a Chicago-based pharmaceutical company.

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Obeidat receives cables of support

AMMAN (Petra) — Prime Minister Ahmad Obeidat Friday received cables from a number of tribesmen, dignitaries, presidents of trade unions and citizens, expressing support for his statement before the Lower House of Parliament on Tuesday. The cables expressed the Jordanian people's support for his willingness to rally behind the wise leadership of His Majesty King Hussein. They also paid tribute to the confidence and frankness exchanged between the government and the Lower House of Parliament and the interest of the Jordanian people in achieving the sublime goals of the country. The cables also voiced support for the steps and measures taken by the government to preserve the country's security and stability.

Israeli wounded in east Lebanon

TEL AVIV (R) — An Israeli soldier was wounded Thursday when a bomb went off as his patrol passed near the village of Jouiya in eastern Lebanon, the Israeli army spokesman said. Israeli troops searched the area but made no arrests, the spokesman added.

Azhar sheikh urges efforts to save Holy City

CAIRO (AP) — The grand sheikh of al-Azhar, one of the most prestigious institutions in the Muslim world, has called on Arab and Islamic nations to unite to restore the Holy City of Jerusalem. In a statement published Friday by Egyptian newspapers, Sheikh Gad Al-Haq Ali Gad Al-Haq said his mission was to call attention to the fate of the Holy City.

Kim arrives in Siberia

MOSCOW (R) — North Korean President Kim Il-Sung arrived in eastern Siberia by train Friday en route for his first visit to Moscow for nearly 20 years. Mr. Kim's trip was seen by diplomats based here as being aimed at boosting relations between the Kremlin and Pyongyang. The ties have been irritated by a range of issues in recent years, including North Korea's links with China. TASS news agency said Mr. Kim's train halted at Zabaikalsk.

8 killed in riots near Bombay

BOMBAY (R) — Eight people were killed and 92 injured in a battle between rival groups in an industrial town on the outskirts of Bombay, officials said Friday. Police with orders to shoot on sight patrolled the streets of Bhivandri in India's western state of Maharashtra Friday after a 24-hour curfew was clamped on the town and surrounding villages. V. Patil, chief minister of the state, told reporters at a Bombay press briefing Friday that about 200 people had been arrested. He described the situation as explosive.

INSIDE

- Tunisia, Libya mobilize forces, page 2
- AOID agrees to help Jordan's industrial re-organization, page 3
- New conclusion for the West Bank, page 4
- Where are the extraterrestrials? page 5
- Jordan beats Iraq in Arab soccer cup, page 6
- Gulf tension boosts insurance rates, page 7
- Reagan to launch \$2 million re-election campaign, page 8

Iraq says it hit 2 ships as Iran warns of 'extremely momentous development' Gulf tension reaches new heights

BAHRAIN (Agencies) — Iraq said it set ablaze two large ships in the Gulf Friday and Iran warned "an extremely momentous development" was possible.

Any resumption of Iraqi attacks against Iranian oil shipments threatens to inflame the Gulf crisis after Iran said this week that no vessels in the waterway would be safe if its own shipping was blocked.

Iraqi jets attacked two "big" naval targets south of Kharg Island, Iran's main oil terminal in the Gulf region, a military spokesman announced Friday.

The spokesman, reading a communiqué over Baghdad Radio, said the raiding jetfighters "scored direct and effective hits in the two targets setting them ablaze, and returned safely to base."

The air attack "underlines our capability to maintain the blockade imposed on Kharg and all other Iranian ports," the spokesman added without disclosing further details pertaining to type and nationality of the reportedly stricken vessels.

The four-month Iraqi-imposed sea blockade on Kharg Island and other Iranian ports has crippled, directly or not, at least 19 Iranian, foreign and Arab ships sailing across the Gulf region.

Iraq announced last February that it was imposing the sea blockade on its 44-month Gulf war enemy to prevent Iran from using

sea ports that are "the main resources financing its war machine." Iraqi communiques warned that any ship trying to approach the Iranian coast will be attacked, irrespective of its nationality.

The report of fresh attacks Friday followed on condemnation by six Gulf Arab states of recent Iranian attacks on Kuwait and Saudi tankers (See page 2).

Kuwait's Foreign Minister Sheikh Sabah Al Ahmad Al Sabah also said Friday an Iranian pilot had defected to Saudi Arabia to seek political asylum after refusing orders to attack a Kuwaiti oil tanker. He gave no date for the defection (See page 2).

GCC decision

Foreign ministers of the Gulf Co-operation Council (GCC) have decided to seek Arab League and United Nations Security Council help to protect commercial navigation in the Gulf waters.

Britain, the United States, and Japan meanwhile expressed concern Thursday about the troubled situation in the Gulf.

The Iraqis fired on two Saudi supertankers on April 25 and May 7 within the war zone it imposed. The Iraqis attacked two Kuwait

oil tankers last Sunday and Monday outside the Iranian territorial waters, and a Saudi tanker Wednesday inside its Saudi territorial waters.

The ministers said they would take their case to an Arab League meeting Saturday in Tunis in the hope of mustering an United Arab front against Iran (Masri leaves for Tunis, page 2). They also decided to refer the problem of the attacks to the Security Council.

U.S. Defence Secretary Casper Weinberger said in Brussels on Thursday that he has no plans to raise the status of alert of American troops in the Gulf region because of the attacks.

"Every country, I think, has to view with great concern the attacks on unarmed ships carrying vital supplies," Mr. Weinberger told reporters after a two-day meeting of North Atlantic Treaty Organisation (NATO) defence ministers.

In Cairo, Egyptian Foreign Minister Kamal Hassan Ali cautioned that the attacks on Arab tankers could precipitate big-power intervention to protect oil traffic in the Gulf.

An official of President Ronald Reagan's administration said in Washington that the U.S. has discussed with Saudi Arabia and other Gulf Arab states the possibility of providing air cover for oil tankers in the Gulf (See page 2).

In Iraq, the daily newspaper Al Thawra, organ of the ruling Arab

Baath Socialist Party, said the attacks on Saudi and Kuwaiti tankers confirmed the view that "Iranian aggression is not aimed at Iraq alone but also the entire Arab Homeland, especially the Gulf and the Arabian Peninsula."

Iranian hints

The Iraqis, while not publicly announcing responsibility for attacking ships, have hinted they did so over the past few days as retaliation for the Iraqi attacks against vessels using their Kharg Island in the northern Gulf.

Tehran Radio, monitored by the British Broadcasting Corporation, Friday quoted a senior Iranian leader as saying "an extremely momentous development (in the Gulf region), the consequences of which cannot be predicted," was possible.

"Should the Gulf be opened to the superpowers and everyone of the second-rate powers, our nation should prepare itself for war throughout the world against the interests of every country desirous of intervention in the Gulf," it quoted Hojatoleslam Hashemi Rafsanjani, Iran's parliament speaker, as saying.

He urged Saudi Arabia, Kuwait and other Gulf states which support Iraq not to get directly involved in the war. Iran would regard exports of oil by Saudi Arabia and Kuwait on behalf of Iraq as participation in the war, he added.

Diplomats in Riyadh told Reuters Thursday they had no doubt Iran was determined to strike back if its oil shipments from the Gulf, on which it depends to finance the war, were blocked.

Gulf salvage companies and shipping sources, contacted by Reuters, said they had no confirmation of any attacks on ships in the Gulf since the Saudi-owned Yanbu Pride was hit off the Saudi coast on Wednesday.

In London, Lloyds shipping intelligence said they had no independent confirmation of any vessels hit in the Gulf Friday.

Norwegian shipowners announced a halt on sailings to the Gulf Friday but a spokesman for Japanese shipowners said Japanese vessels were still being sent to the area despite the report of Iraqi attacks Friday.

The English-daily Saudi Gazette said Friday the kingdom's patience should not be overtaxed in the crisis over air attacks on its oil tankers and those of its allies.

It said in an editorial the Saudis had been trying to avoid U.S. intervention in the Gulf, and had no doubt that the GCC foreign ministers had put final touches to a collective defence strategy.

The Kuwaiti daily Al Watan called on Iranian rulers to resort to reason and prevent new problems in the region, including superpower interference.

Bush says Iran should come to its senses, page 2

Israeli raid on Palestinian refugee camp killed 3, injured 29, UNRWA says

VIENNA (Agencies) — An official of the United Nations Relief and Works Agency (UNRWA) said Friday three people had died and about 29 were injured when Israeli forces stormed a Palestinian refugee camp in southern Lebanon last Tuesday.

"We have just had a report which says that one woman died of shock after disturbances on May 17, and two people were killed on May 15 by gun shots," a spokesman at the agency's Vienna headquarters contacted by phone told Reuters.

Three people were seriously injured, six wounded by gunshot and about 20 suffered cuts and bruises, he said.

Earlier Friday the Israeli army denied any involvement in the incidents and said "disturbances" in the 'Ain Al Hilweh camp near Sidon were between "camp residents."

Czechoslovakian daily Rude

Pravo said that Israelis had killed about 40 people in a massacre at the camp, the official Ceteka news agency reported.

The UNRWA spokesman declined to comment on this report. Meanwhile an Israeli patrol staged a show of strength in the streets of the South Lebanese port city of Sidon by shooting out tyres of up to 20 cars and ramming a truck with an armoured vehicle.

The Israeli soldiers then beat and kicked the truck's driver, while members of the Israeli-backed "South Lebanon army" blocked Western photographers from taking pictures of the incident.

The Israeli occupation force has, in the past, rammed or shot up cars on streets in Sidon to enforce "no parking" orders. The orders are designed to prevent bombs from being detonated in cars while Israeli patrols are passing.

The incidents in Sidon Friday

came following three days of violence in the nearby Palestinian refugee camp. Visitors to the camp Friday morning reported that it was quiet but that new barricades — made of burned out cars, barrels, iron pipes and other junk — had been put up inside the camp.

An Israeli military spokesman in Tel Aviv issued a statement Thursday night on events in the 'Ain Al Hilweh refugee camp that contradicted what Israeli military sources had said earlier, and completely at odds with the versions of camp residents and officials of UNRWA.

The Israeli statement said two people were injured after Israeli forces entered the camp late Tuesday night to make "searches and arrests." It said one woman was injured as soldiers broke into a house where they found "sabotage equipment" and a second person was shot trying to escape.

Israelis say Ansar escapee shot dead

TEL AVIV (Agencies) — The Israeli military spokesman on Friday announced that one prisoner was killed and five others escaped in a breakout from the Ansar camp in South Lebanon.

The announcement was the first official Israeli confirmation that prisoners were being held at the Ansar facility which the army had said was closed after a prisoner exchange last November.

South Lebanon residents, however, have reported that more than 200 people have been detained in the camp since the announced closing.

The spokesman said Israeli forces "fired" at the fleeing detainees Thursday night and captured four in addition to one who was fatally injured.

The injured man was flown to a hospital in Israel where he later died, according to the spokesman, who in keeping with military regulations was not identified.

The announcement did not say whether the escapees were Palestinians or Lebanese.

On Thursday, in response to queries from the Associated Press, Israeli officers who stipulated they be identified only as "official military sources" said Ansar was no longer a detention camp but was being used as an "interrogation centre by the general security services" — popularly known by its Hebrew initials of Shin Bet.

These sources said "suspects" may have been detained at Ansar for "interrogation" before being taken to undisclosed other locations.

They said "a few people" might be held at Ansar for "a few days" but gave no specific figures.

Last Nov. 24, Israel swapped 4,600 prisoners for six Israeli soldiers captured in Lebanon in 1982 by Palestinian fighters. At the time, Israeli officials said 4,500 of the freed prisoners had been held in Ansar while 100 had been jailed in Israel.

Of the Ansar prisoners, the Israelis said, 1,000 were brought to Israel and flown to freedom in Algeria while the remaining 3,500 Palestinian and Lebanese detainees were released "unconditionally at the gate of Ansar."

Military spokesmen subsequently maintained that Ansar had been shut down.

Golan Druze stage anti-Israel protests

TEL AVIV (AP) — Thousands of Druze in the occupied Golan Heights waved Syrian flags and shouted anti-Israeli slogans in a memorial demonstration marking the 40th day after the death of a former Syrian Druze general and member of parliament, Israel Radio reported.

The radio said about 10,000 demonstrators attended the memorial, standing in separate groups on both sides of the line separating Israeli-occupied territory from Syria.

On the Syrian side of the line, Syrian parliament member Shaker Akawi condemned Morocco for welcoming a 35-member Israeli

delegation to a conference of Moroccan Jews in Rabat this week, the radio said.

The radio said the protest broke up without incident after 90 minutes.

The rally marked 40 days since Gen. Nooraddin Kanj Abu Saleh, his wife and two children were killed in a car accident in Damascus.

Gen. Abu Saleh's burial April 9 had sparked angry demonstrations by a group of Golan Druze after Israel failed to grant his family's request to bury him in the Israel-held village of Majdel Shams where he was born.

Israel occupied the Syrian Golan Heights in the 1967 war

and annexed the area in December 1981.

Meanwhile the Jerusalem Post reported that a large number of Druze living in the annexed territories have given up their Israeli citizenship.

The paper attributed the Druze decision to mounting pressure and ostracism from the community's leaders and notables.

A resident of the Majdel Shams village, Moreh Druk, said he was forced to give up his Israeli citizenship after the village notables refused to hold a religious funeral for his son as long as he was an Israeli citizen, the paper said.

U.N. to debate Israeli attack

UNITED NATIONS (R) — The Security Council will meet on Monday to consider a complaint against Israel arising out of Israeli attacks this week in a Palestinian refugee camp in South Lebanon, officials said Friday. The Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) sought the hearing and council members agreed to debate the matter after a closed-door review of the question Friday. As the PLO is not empowered to submit a formal request for council action, its case was backed by the Arab group through its chairman for the month, the delegate of Kuwait, who sent a letter to the president, Oleg Trovanevsky of the Soviet Union, Thursday night, asking for a council meeting. Israeli troops admitted having carried out a "search" in the U.N.-run camp near Sidon early Wednesday. The United Nations Relief and Works Agency said Friday three people were killed and 29 injured in the Israeli raid.

King, Thatcher review developments in Gulf

AMMAN (J.T.) — His Majesty King Hussein and British Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher Tuesday held discussions on developments in the Middle East with special focus on the Iran-Iraq war, the Jordanian News Agency, Petra reported from London.

King Hussein, who is on a private visit to Britain, and Mrs. Thatcher also reviewed Middle East problems in general and the

Arab-Israeli conflict. The King said in a British radio interview last weekend that every Israeli settlement on the West Bank was an added obstacle in the path of peace.

Earlier, Mrs. Thatcher told parliament that Britain was seriously concerned about the Iran-Iraq war and its implications for the West's security, especially in view of recent attacks on oil tankers.

Masri stresses need for unified Arab stand

TUNIS (Agencies) — The Arab World is currently facing a most critical situation and all Arab countries should live up to the level of their responsibility towards the challenges. Foreign Minister Taher Al Masri said Friday.

Mr. Masri, who was speaking to reporters upon arrival at Carthage airport to attend an emergency meeting of Arab foreign ministers due to open in the Tunisian city Saturday, stressed the need for all Arab countries to adopt a unified stand under the Arab League Charter to face all challenges, the Jordanian News Agency, Petra, said.

"What we are facing in the Gulf area and the eastern part of the Arab Homeland is the biggest evidence of the gravity of the situation that confronts us," Mr. Masri said.

Jordan would submit to the Arab ministers meeting its proposals and plans to support the steadfastness of the people living under the Israeli occupation, the foreign minister said.

Commenting on the ongoing Jordanian-Palestinian dialogue on joint political moves in efforts to solve the Palestinian problem, Mr. Masri said a framework for such efforts has not been reached. Once such a framework has been reached, the efforts would be on a

pan-Arab level, he added. Attacks on shipping and the danger that the Gulf war might spread to other Arab nations are expected to dominate a meeting of the ministers.

The extraordinary Arab League meeting was originally called in March to draft an agenda and fix a date for a much-postponed Arab summit due to have been held in Saudi Arabia last year.

But the six-nation Gulf Co-operation Council (GCC) has asked for it to consider the burning issue of recent air attacks on Kuwaiti and Saudi tankers in the Gulf.

Kuwait said Friday that it would ask the Arab League to implement its Joint Defence Agreement, a move which would bring league members to the support of the Gulf states.

But Syria and Libya, which maintain good relations with Iran, are likely to oppose such a request, Reuter quoted diplomatic sources as saying.

The Gulf war was already on the agenda as the ministers from Iraq, Jordan, Tunisia, Morocco, Saudi Arabia, Kuwait and North Yemen were to report on a recent tour aimed at urging Western countries to help bring the war to an end.

Masri leaves for Tunisia, page 2

Jordan dismisses Libyan allegation as fabrication

AMMAN (J.T.) — Jordan on Friday strongly denied a Libyan allegation that the Kingdom was planning a "terrorist campaign" against the regime of Col. Muammar Qadhafi by training Palestinian commandos to carry out the plan.

The British Broadcasting Corporation (BBC) quoted a high-level Jordanian government official as saying the Libyan charge, published by the official Libyan news agency JANA earlier Friday, "is a complete fabrication to cover up recent events in Libya."

"Jordan does not plan or carry out any such acts against any Arab country," the senior official said. Reuters quoted an official of the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) in Amman as also denying the Libyan charge.

Alaeddin Husni, chief of the PLO bureau in Jordan, told Reuters

that the Libyan government was making the allegations to justify its internal problems "by passing on the responsibility (for these problems) to persons outside the Libyan nation."

Libyan exiles opposed to Col. Qadhafi said last week some of their commandos staged a daring operation in the Libyan capital, Tripoli, aimed at assassinating the Libyan strongman. The operation, in which about 12 to 15 took part, failed and the commandos were killed in a shootout with Libyan soldiers.

Libya blamed Tunisia and other unnamed Arab countries of supporting the operation with British and American help. Tunisia has rejected the charges.

Libya, Tunisia re-inforce troops at border, page 2

U.S. accuses 2 Libyans of plots against defectors

NEW YORK (R) — A U.S. prosecutor charged in court Friday that a Libyan student arrested last week for trying to buy guns and silencers had sought hitmen to kill defectors in the United States and an unnamed person in Britain.

Assistant U.S. Attorney Carol Amon said Bashir Ali Baesho, 36, and another Libyan student arrested with him last week, Mehdi Belgasem Hitehesh, had direct links to the Libyan government and were also trying to export C-130 airplane parts to Lih, a.

The prosecutor said Mr. Baesho asked an undercover Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) agent who sold him three guns with silencers last week if he could provide him with hitmen to kill defectors this summer.

"Baesho said he was interested in eliminating defectors and asked him (the undercover agent) if he could do a hit in Britain," Ms. Amon told Brooklyn Federal Court Judge Mark Constantino.

Judge Constantino ordered both men held in lieu of \$10 million each and set June 4 as the date for the hearing.

Ms. Amon said she was asking for high bail because she had information from a highly reliable source that the Libyan government was ready to post bail for the two men, both U.S. graduate students.

Lawyers for the Libyans said there was no evidence to link their clients to any conspiracy and that they were only charged with buying the guns. "They are victims of an entrapment scheme," attorney Robert Thabit said.

The two men were arrested on May 9 after Mr. Baesho bought three .45-calibre pistols with silencers from an undercover agent in New York and then drove with him to a Philadelphia suburb where he linked up with Mr. Hitehesh.

Ms. Amon said the conversation on supplying hitmen took place as the FBI undercover agent drove with Mr. Baesho to Philadelphia.

The prosecutor said Mr. Hitehesh was a member of the Libyan military but did not give his rank. He said Mr. Baesho had direct links with Libya.

WASHINGTON (USIA)— The White House says it is confident of its ability to cope with any eventuality in the Gulf. U.S. Deputy Press Secretary Larry Speakes said Thursday.

might have been rejected by the Gulf states, he said: "I don't know that there's been an informal offer and therefore no rejection."

In response to questions about how the Reagan administration would deal with the situation, Mr. Speakes said: "The goal remains to keep the strait open. I did not discuss means or methods."

Asked if the Gulf states had made any kind of request to the United States, Mr. Speakes said: "I don't know if there have been any specific requests; in fact I doubt if there have been any specific requests on the tanker attacks in the Gulf, but we do have, certainly, an ongoing relationship that does include military with those individual states."

Asked about the nature of the consultations that have been conducted, Mr. Speakes described them as "more of a diplomatic nature."

"Certainly we've had arrangements over the past several months with the region and particularly our European friends on future planning for the area. But these consultations have taken more of an approach of diplomatic statements to the parties involved," he said.

Mr. Speakes said President Reagan "would adequately consult with Congress on any steps that we would take."

As for whether AWACS aircraft had monitored the attacks on oil tankers in the Gulf, Mr. Speakes said, "we do have AWACS in Saudi Arabia at the request of the government of Saudi Arabia. They've been there since the beginning of the Iran-Iraq war in 1980." He said he did not know the number of AWACS there but noted, "the aircraft are fully operational and are providing aerial surveillance data for eastern Saudi Arabia and the adjacent Gulf to the Saudi Air Force to enhance its air defence capability. The AWACS are operating within Saudi air space."

He told questioners the AWACS he was referring to were not those that were sold to Saudi Arabia but those that had been stationed there by the United States at the request of the Saudis. The AWACS stationed in Saudi Arabia, he said, are commanded by U.S. personnel.

Asked if he were denying the report in the *New York Times* May 17 that the United States had made an offer of air cover at a time when the Iran-Iraq war was not as intense as it has since become and no one accepted the offer, Mr. Speakes said, "I am essentially denying the Times story. I hate to issue a blanket denial" of the whole story "because it had many facets but that part of it that we'd received" a request "or had offered" air cover "is not true."

Mr. Speakes said the diplomatic consultations he referred to had taken place "at the ambassadorial level" in the Middle East and in



Larry Speakes

Europe "in the last several days." "Whatever we did would be in concert with European allies and specifically those friendly nations in the region" of the Gulf."

Mr. Speakes said that in the eventuality of any cutoff of oil supplies because of violence in the Gulf, "we feel there are adequate stocks both in the United States and worldwide to sustain any cutoff that would be caused by the violence."

He said the Reagan administration has "tripled the stock in the strategic oil reserve" since entering the White House over three years ago.

At the State Department, spokesman John Hughes emphasised that while the United States has been involved in consultation with a number of Gulf states over security problems for several months, "no specific U.S. or direct military support has been made. Nor has any been requested by any of the Gulf states."

"As you know, that is an area of vital interest to us. The president has made it clear that we are prepared to defend our vital interests," Mr. Hughes declared.

TUNIS (R) Tunisia has strengthened its forces at the border with Libya where a big Libyan build-up has also been reported, informed Tunisian sources said Friday.

Libyan helicopters overflew Tunisian border areas on Wednesday, while the night before, Libyans raided Tunisian territory in a vain attempt to kidnap Tunisian border guards, the sources said.

There were some skirmishes between guards from both sides but no casualties.

Tunisia's ruling Socialist Destourian Party accused Libya Thursday of "provocations" at the border. The Tunisian ambassador to Tripoli was recalled on Wednesday to protest against an anti-Tunisian campaign by Libyan news media.

Following a gun battle in Tripoli on May 8, Libyan accused Tunisia of allowing armed opponents of Libyan leader Muammar Qadhafi to infiltrate into Libya through Tunisian territory.

Tunisia has denied any involvement and in turn accused Libya of kidnapping three Tunisian border guards on Tunisian soil. An official Tunisian statement on Tuesday said they had not yet been released.

Tunisia has rejected a demand by Tripoli to open an investigation into the alleged infiltration until the three border guards have been released.

Tunisia's main forces border areas are understood to be made up of a "Saharan" headquartered at Remada, 50 kilometres behind the part of the common border, sources said.

The politburo of the ruling party, the country's political authority, decided Wednesday to step up and mobilisation within the cells, party sources said.

Despite the escalation, Foreign Ministry said some common ground could be found when Libyan Minister Abdul Salam Ali arrives here later Friday to an Arab League meeting.

Bush says Iran should come to its senses

LAHORE, Pakistan (R) — U.S. Vice President George Bush Friday branded Iran as one of history's most extreme regimes and said Tehran should come to its senses and stop trying to overthrow neighbouring governments.

Mr. Bush told journalists before leaving for Oman after a four-day visit to Pakistan that the United States hoped air attacks on ships in the Gulf would stop.

But he said the Reagan administration had no immediate plans to give military aid to threatened states in the area.

He refused to be drawn on questions about mounting tension in the Gulf and attacks on oil tankers. But he condemned Iran's policies both during and after the 14-month hostage drama at the U.S. embassy in Tehran.

"The sore" is still deep, the wound is still open in terms of the hostage experience," he said.

Bush called the Tehran government "one of the most extreme regimes mankind has seen — (it has) fingerprints all over the terror and murder of American Marines in Lebanon."


"I would hope there would be some coming-to-its-senses (Iran) in terms of international behaviour... and not trying to throw its neighbours," he said.

Mr. Bush declined to say whether the United States would pressure Pakistan to provide logistical support for Washington's military in the Gulf if supply lines open.

Oman has agreed to bases for the U.S. Rapid Deployment Force but Pakistan consistently said it would not.

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Taher Al Masri

Masri leaves for Tunisia

AMMAN (Petra) — Foreign Minister Taher Al Masiiri left for Tunisia Thursday at the head of a Jordanian delegation to the meetings of the emergency session of the Arab League Council.

The agenda of the Arab Foreign Ministers' Conference, which starts its meetings in Tunis Saturday and a number of issues pertaining to Jordan's Foreign Ministry were discussed Thursday during a meeting at the Foreign Ministry between Prime Minister Ahmad 'Obeidat and Mr. Masiiri.

Before leaving to Tunis Mr. Masiiri said that the council will discuss means of paving the way for holding the 13th Arab Summit Conference and fixing a date for it.

In reply to a question by the Jordanian News Agency, Petra, about prospects of holding the long-awaited conference, Mr. Masiiri said the current circumstances and the developments which the Arab Nation is experiencing on the international arena necessitate the speedy convening of the Arab summit conference.

Obeidi to take part in Damascus meetings

AMMAN (Petra) — Secretary-General of the Council of Arab Economic Unity (CAEU) Mahdi Al Obeidi leaves for Damascus Saturday to take part in the meetings of the 16th session of the co-ordination committee between the Arab League General Secretariat, its affiliated bodies and Arab organisations.

On the agenda of the five-day meetings are topics related to the setting up and development of an Arab information network and the role of Arab organisations in it. Arabisation of the computer system used in the preparation of bibliographic data, in addition to memos submitted by the CAEU General Secretariat regarding co-operation agreements with international economic organisations.

Taking part in the committee meetings, to be chaired by Arab League Secretary General Chadi Kleibi, are directors of Arab organisations and bodies.

BAHRAIN (R)—Arab Gulf states Thursday condemned Iran for attacking their tankers and the Persian Gulf's oil traffic, slued as Iran warned no vessels were safe if its own shipping was threatened.

The six-nation Gulf Co-operation Council (GCC) said it would take up the Iranian "aggression" with the United Nations' Security Council and also raise the matter at an Arab League session in Tunis on Saturday.

Amid heightened tension over the fresh threats to freedom of navigation in the strategic waterway as a result of the Iran-Iraq war, Iran ordered the United States and the Soviet Union to stay away from the area.

Kuwait, which suffered attacks on two tankers this week also sought to discourage superpower involvement in the region, where the conflict has spread well beyond the war zone proclaimed by Iraq in the northern part of the Gulf.

Iran's demands for the end of a visit to the Gulf by Vice-President George Bush, said there were no grounds for increasing its warship readiness in the area.

The Reagan administration said in Washington it was weighing options for keeping the Gulf open to oil shipping but had offered no specific military support, nor had any Gulf state requested air cover.

The Gulf Co-operation Council, formed three years ago to counter any threats to its stability of the states, met after air attacks this week against Kuwait tankers and against a Saudi supertanker hit in Saudi waters Wednesday.

In a statement after the talks, ministers said aggression against any one member was deemed to be directed at all six.

Iraq said the only way to end the growing tension in the Gulf was to end the war with Iran.

Japan, which relies on the oil from its oil, expressed concern over the latest flare-up. Prime Minister Yasuhiro Aso said he would discuss the issue with Arab League representatives in talks scheduled next week.

U.S. Defence Minister Frank C. Weinberger, asked in Beirut Thursday whether he had raised the state of alert of the Naval Forces in the region, "We don't have any basis for doing that at the moment."

WASHINGTON (USIA) — Sudan is a friend of long standing with the United States, and that relationship is not about to change, says America's top African affairs official.

He is Mr. Chester Crocker, the U.S. Assistant Secretary of State for African Affairs who was interviewed May 16 on Worldnet, the U.S. Information Agency's satellite television International Affairs interview programme.

Mr. Crocker was questioned by journalists in Lagos, London, Lusaka, and Nairobi.

Asked about the United States and its increased assistance to Sudan, Somalia and Kenya, Mr. Crocker said that of the three Sudan is the recipient of the largest amount of this aid, and then he pointed out "that there is a heavy preponderance of economic assistance, as indeed there should be, because that is where the need is, overwhelmingly."

But, he conceded, "there indeed, security concerns as well."

Concerning his recent discussions in Khartoum, Mr. Crocker said they were "in the context of an important bilateral relationship that we have with Sudan. Sudan is a long-standing and very important friend in the African and the Middle East contexts, and we see no change in that regard."

Iranian pilot defects

KUWAIT (AP) — The Kuwaiti foreign minister confirmed Friday that an Iranian Airforce pilot defected to Saudi Arabia after refusing to carry out attack orders against a Kuwaiti oil tanker in the Gulf region.

Sheikh Sabah Al Ahmad was talking to reporters before his departure for Tunis where he said he would deliver an outlined report on the Iranian attacks on Gulf tankers at the emergency session of the Arab League council opening Saturday.

He declined further details on the pilot who defected. The incident had been circulated by an Arab diplomat in Iraq as the Kuwait cabinet earlier this week directly blamed Iran for the attacks on Arab oil tankers.

The decision to take the Iranian attacks on two Kuwaiti owned tankers, as well as one Saudi Arabian-registered tanker, was made at an emergency conference of the foreign ministers of the Gulf Co-operation Council on Thursday.

The GCC Secretary-General Abdullah Bishara will be in New York Sunday to follow up the issue.

Lebanese Forces open office in Jerusalem

JERUSALEM (R) — A representative of the Lebanese Falangist militia opened a liaison office in Jerusalem Thursday, saying he expected the move to prompt Syria to wage war on his people as never before.

Mr. Pierre Yazbek told a city hall reception: "We expect Syrian shelling and pressure on our people to come to even more unbearable extremes. War will be waged against us."

The opening of the office, an act of defiance against Lebanese Prime Minister Rashid Karami's new government, was attended by officials of Israel's Foreign Ministry, including Director General David Kimche.

Mr. Kimche said Israel had long-standing ties with Lebanese Falangists and welcomed the representation. But he added that Israel wanted good relations with all Lebanese factions.

He has said the office would not have diplomatic status but would be granted certain privileges.

Israel has kept a liaison office north of Beirut in the Falangist held area since it invaded Lebanon in June 1982. Three mem- bers of that office were captured by Syrian troops in Lebanon. Israel said the sighting was but Damascus they were on a spying mis-

The Falangist militia opened the office Thursday. May 1 symbolic gesture since it is only one year ago that Israel-Lebanon signed a withdrawal accord which Beirut abrogated under Syrian pres-

The militia, known as the Lebanese Forces, denounced the opening of the accord and regrettably towards Syria.

Turkish prime minister attacks Papandreou

ANKARA (R) — Turkish Prime Minister Turgut Ozal Friday sharply attacked Greek Prime Minister Andreas Papandreou, saying he was playing a dangerous game by accusing Turkey of posing a threat to Greece.

"Mr. Papandreou is promoting the theme of a Turkish threat for external and domestic political considerations, something I am sure he himself does not believe," Mr. Ozal told a press conference.

He cited Mr. Papandreou's May 10 speech to a Pan-Hellenic Socialist Party (PASOK) congress, saying the Greek leader spoke of two Turkish islands and Istanbul as falling within Greek concern and commented on Turkey's political structure.

"The game he is playing is a dangerous one," Mr. Ozal said. "We hope that Mr. Papandreou will speedily extricate himself from the phobia of the Turkish threat."

Mr. Ozal's remarks were in con-

trast to his conciliatory pose on assuming power in December, when he offered Athens "the hand of friendship."

"Unfortunately, we did not get positive responses," he said.

Mr. Ozal said relations between Turkey and Greece, long soured over Cyprus, disputes in the Aegean sea and other issues, had deteriorated "beyond expectations" since PASOK came to power in 1981.

He called Mr. Papandreou "interrigent," but said he did not believe the Greek nation shared their prime minister's views. "What is important... is that the two countries should not consider fighting each other," he said.

On Cyprus, Mr. Ozal rejected a recent U.N. Security Council resolution condemning last November's independence declaration by the Turkish Cypriot community.

"No solution can be achieved with a mentality that ignores the

Turkish community... We fulfil our obligations to towards the Turkish community and we clearly declare never recognise such unilateral solutions," Mr. Ozal said.

Mr. Ozal said his plans to Libya next week would ahead despite U.S. concern such a trip by a NATO prime minister. "My trip had been decided a long ago... We saw no necessity to change it," he said.

On Thursday, a Foreign Ministry spokesman said Turkey informed Washington it could accept interference in its relations with Libya, which have traditionally been close.

Asked about continuing censorship by the military in the past has included in his own statements, Mr. Ozal the government could intervene in the exercise of law, still in force in most

TV & RADIO		WHAT'S GOING ON		FOR THE TRAVELLER		USEFUL TELEPHONE NOS.							
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Cup final - Everton vs. Watford 1830 Local Programme 1830 Waz Kib 1920 Programme Review 1930 Local Programme 2000 News in Arabic 2030 Arabic Series 2145 Arabic Play 2300 News in Arabic 2310 Play Continued FOREIGN CHANNEL 1800 French Programme 1900 News in French 1930 News in Hebrew 2030 Jennifer Sleeps Here 2100 Documentary: The Cold War Caucasus - Part II 2230 News in English 2330 Feature Film: Gernahim Johnson - Robert Redford, Bill Geer		BBC WORLD SERVICE 639, 720, 1413 KHz 0600 Newsweek 0630 That's The World 0645 Financial News 655 Reflections 0700 World News 0700 British Press Review 0715 British News Ideas 0730 News 0740 Book Choice 0745 The World Today 0800 Newsweek 0830 Album Time 0900 World News 0930 News about Britain 0945 From the Weeklies 0950 Classical Record Review 0945 Network UK 1000 World News 1009 Reflections 1015 A Treasury of Music 1030 Brain of Britain 1964 1140 World News 1100 British Press Review 1115 The World Today 1130 Financial News 1140 Look Ahead 1145 People and Politics 1215 What's New 1230 My World 1240 World News 1249 News About Britain 1315 About Britain 1330 Meridian 1400 Radio Newsweek 1415 Anything Goes 1445 Sports Round-up 1500 World News 1509 Commentary 1515 Network UK 1530 That's The World 1600 Saturday Special 1645 News Summary 1815 Saturday Special 1830 World News 1839 Commentary 1845 Saturday Special 1900 News Summary 1909 Book Choice 1915 Baker's Hall Dances 1945 Sports Round-up 2000 Newsweek 2030 Play of the Week: The Passing of Humoria 2130 Album Time 2200 World News 2209 Commentary 2215 Good Books 2230 Too Many People 2315 Football Highlights 2330 People and Politics 2345 World News 0009 From our own Correspondent 0030 News Ideas 0040 Reflections 0045 Sports Round-up 0100 World News 0109 Commentary 0115 Letterbox 0130 Meridian		TODAY'S EVENTS EXHIBITIONS * Paintings by Ali Jabri at the British Council * A collection of paintings and other works of art by local and international artists on show at the Ali Art Gallery. * An exhibition of paintings on silk at the French Cultural Centre at 6:00 p.m. FILM * The film festival of American musicals featuring "Top Hat" at the Royal Cultural Centre at 8:00 p.m. * "La Bataille du Rail" at the French Cultural Centre at 7:45 p.m. VIDEO FILM * Les beaux meubres de Bois-Dore - 3rd eps. at the French Cultural Centre at 7:00 p.m. CULTURAL CENTRES Royal Cultural Centre - Tel. 6610267 American Centre - 40371 American Centre Library - 41520 British Council - 361478 French Cultural Centre - 37009 Goethe Institute - 41993 Soviet Cultural Centre - 44203 Spanish Cultural Centre - 24049 Turkish Cultural Centre - 39777 Hava Arts Centre - 667181 Hussein Youth City - 665195 W.Y.C.A. - 667193 W.Y.M.A. - 664251 Amman Municipal Library - 36111 University of Jordan Library - 843555		AMMAN AIRPORT This information is supplied by Alfa Infor- mation department at the Queen Alia International Airport, tel. (08) 53250, 53070, 53082, 53171, where it should always be verified. ARRIVALS 05:50 Cairo (MS) 09:15 Abu Dhabi (MS) 09:30 Amman (RJ) 09:30 Karachi, Dubai (RJ) 09:45 Doha, Bahrain (RJ) 09:45 Kuwait (RJ) 09:45 Jeddah (RJ) 09:45 Cairo (RJ) 09:45 Dhahran (RJ) 14:25 Laraca (CY) 14:40 Kuwait (KU) 17:10 Damascus (AF) 17:30 New York, Vienna (RJ) 18:00 Balgrade, Istanbul (RJ) 18:30 Cairo (RJ) 18:45 Rome, Damascus (AZ) 19:50 Frankfurt, Damascus (RJ) 20:00 Cairo (MS) 08:45 Cairo (RJ) 09:45 Baghdad (RJ) DEPARTURES 05:10 Damascus, Frankfurt (LH) 05:45 Cairo (RJ) 06:50 Cairo (MS) 07:50 Athens (OZ) 08:20 Tripoli (RJ) 11:00 New York, Vienna (RJ) 11:00 Geneva, Madrid (RJ) 12:00 Paris, London (RJ) 12:15 Frankfurt, Brussels (RJ) 14:30 Cairo (RJ) 15:15 Laraca (CY) 15:30 Kuwait (RJ) 19:30 Baghdad (RJ) 20:15 Baghdad (RJ) 20:15 Jeddah (RJ) 20:45 Cairo (RJ) 21:50 Cairo (MS)		MARITIME TRAFFIC Regular-line ships docking at Aqaba port: - Marko Marolic - Merzario Arabia - Badre - Rostock - Banglar Mont - Agia Mystic - Vishva Aditya - Laredo - Al Khansa Amin Kavar and Sons Company, Tel. 22324 (six lines) at your service. WEATHER Bulletin supplied by the Department of Meteorology. An increase in temperature is expected, with northwesterly moderate winds. In Aqaba, winds will be northerly mod- erate and seas calm. Low/high temperature in deg. C. Amman - 12/19 Aqaba - 18/23 Deraia - 11/30 Jordan Valley - 16/33 Yesterday's high temperatures: Amman 25 deg. C. Humidity re- ading: Amman 25 per cent, Aqaba 20 per cent. MONEY EXCHANGE Local sell/buy rates in Jds Belgian franc 87.4/ 87.8 Dutch guilder 122.4/ 122.7 Egyptian guinea 329/ 330 French franc 44.6/ 44.9 Iraqi dinar 355.1/ 360.8 Indian lire (for 100) 22.2/ 22.4 Israeli new (for 100) 162.4/ 163.4 Kuwait dinar 1277.3/ 1282 Lebanese lira 64.3/ 65.1 Omani riyal 1090/ 1096.6 Qatari riyal 1063.6/ 1064.1 Saudi riyal 107.7/ 107.8 Swedish crown 46.8/ 47.1 Swiss franc 166.1/ 167.1 Syrian lira 51.9/ 52.7 UAE dirham 102.8/ 103.3 U.K. sterling pound 372.6/ 373.8 U.S. dollar 377.5/ 379.5 W. German mark 137.2/ 138		EMERGENCIES Ambulance - 193, 75111 Fire, fire, police - 199 Blood bank - 75121 Civil Defence rescue - 561111 Fire headquarters - 22090-3 Police rescue - 192, 2111, 37777 Police headquarters - 39141 Traffic police - 56394 Electric Power Co. - 36381-2 Municipal water service - 71125-R Queen Alia Int. Airport - (08) 53333 HOSPITALS Hussein Medical Centre - 813813-32 Khaldia Maternity, J. Amman 44281-4 Akhil Maternity, J. Amman 42441 Jabal Amman Maternity - 42362 Malhas, J. Amman - 36140 Palestine, Shmeiani - 664171-4 Shmeiani Hospital - 660131 University Hospital - 84545 Dar Al-Shifa, J. Hussein - 667158 Al-Muasher Hospital - 667222-9 The Islamic, Abdali - 665292 Al-Ahli Abdali - 664164 Italian, Al-Muhajirah - 77101-3 Al-Bashir, J. Ashrafiah - 75111 Army, Marka - 91611 NIGHT DUTY AMMAN: Dr. Salman Al Attari - 774203 IRBID Dr. Hani Gharabeh - 2427 Jerusalem pharmacy - 3443 ZARQA: Dr. Khalid Al Qaddoudi - (-) The Modern pharmacy - (-) GENERAL Jordan Television - 73111 Radio Jordan - 74711 Ministry of Tourism - 42311 Hotel complaints - 666412 Police complaints - 661176 Telephone - 661176 Information - 12 Jordan and Middle East calls - 10 Overseas calls - 17 Cable or telegram - 18 Repair service - 11		MARKET PRICES Upper/lower price in Jds per kg. Banana 280/ 240 Banana (Mukammal) 280/ 210 Beans 300/ 320 Broad Beans - 250/ 220 Cabbage - 70/ 50 Carrot - 100/ 140 Eggplant (white) 150/ 100 Chick peas - 180/ 130 Cucumber (large) 280/ 200 Cucumber (small) 280/ 240 Eggplant (large) 170/ 140 Eggplant (small) 150/ 100 Garlic 480/ 440 Grapefruit - 170/ 140 Lemon - 240/ 200 Mallow - 380/ 340 Marrow (large) 250/ 200 Marrow (small) 470/ 420 Mushrooms - 230/ 200 Onion (red) 150/ 100 Onion (green) 100/ 80 Okra - 180/ 140 Onions (local) 150/ 100 Onions (Shumouti) 270/ 240 Peas - 500/ 450 Pepper (sweet) 250/ 200 Pepper (hot green) 400/ 400 Potatoes - 110/ 80 Spinach - 200/ 170 Tomatoes - 130/ 100 Water Melon	

هكذا مات الأهل

ALTU seeks re-opening of Syrian, Iraqi border

AMMAN (J.T.) — The Arab Land Transport Union (ALTU) Thursday issued a call to Iraq and Syria to re-open their common border and urged Syria to allow the passage of Iraqi oil through its territory to reach the Mediterranean coast.

The call was included in a communiqué ALTU issued at the end of a three-day meeting here which also urged Arab states to separate economic action from political issues.

ALTU's recommendations included a call to hold a seminar on transport featuring Arab specialists who would prepare a unified Arab code of specifications for lorries, draw up a handbook on Arab roads and hold training courses on land transport-related issues.

The delegates also heard a report by the union's secretary-general on ALTU's activities and issues related to Arab transport.

Overland transport talks open in Iraqi capital

AMMAN (Petra) — A Jordanian team of officials and transport specialists is holding talks with Iraqi officials on matters relating to overland transport between Aqaba and Baghdad and freight charges.

The Jordanian team, which left for Baghdad Wednesday evening,

is being led by Transport Minister Taher Hikmat. The Iraqis are being headed by Minister of Transport Abdul Jabbar Al Assadi.

The talks are considered as a follow up to an earlier session held in Amman, according to a spokesman for the Ministry of Transport.

Scandinavian Red Cross promises help to Aqaba

AQABA (J.T.) — The scope of co-operation between the Jordanian Red Crescent Society (RCS) and the Red Cross societies in Scandinavia was the subject of discussion during a meeting held here Thursday between president of the RCS, here Dr. Ahmad Abu Qoura, and a visiting Scandinavian Red Cross delegation comprising the presidents of the societies in Denmark, Finland, Sweden and Norway.

The meeting also discussed issues related to the work of the RCS branch in Aqaba and its implementation as well as help which can be offered to this branch by the Scandinavian Red Cross societies.

In a statement to the Jordan News Agency, Petra, here Dr. Abu Qoura said that discussions also dealt with joint projects which will act as the base of co-operation between the RCS in Jordan and the Scandinavian societies during a forthcoming conference to be held in September under the slogan of peace.

The delegation came here to discuss ways of strengthening co-operation between these societies and equivalent societies in Jordan and for the exchange of services and expertise.

The delegation arrived in Jordan Tuesday on a five-day visit upon the invitation of the RCS here. They are scheduled to leave Amman Saturday.



His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan, the Regent, Thursday opens a new section at the Royal Armoured Division headquarters (Photo by Youssef Al 'Allan)

Hassan attends artillery day

AMMAN (Petra) — The Royal Armoured Division's artillery corps held a field day Thursday under the patronage of His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan, the Regent.

The programme included sports displays, re-assembling weaponry and target shooting.

Prince Hassan himself took part in the shooting exercise and later toured the field and inspected a display of arms and military equipment.

The assistant army chief of staff and senior army officers attended the field activities with Prince Hassan.

On Wednesday Prince Hassan met at Al Hussein Medical City a group of senior army officers and doctors taking part in the neurological conference being held in Amman.

Prince Hassan briefed the audience on the situation in the Middle East region in general and in the Arab area in particular.

He also presented a briefing supported with maps on Israel's settlement and expansionist policies in the occupied Arab lands, and its drive to Judaize the territory and to evict the indigenous population from their homeland in order to build more settlements and exploit the territory's water and other resources.

Sarvath opens exhibition of paintings on silk

AMMAN (Petra) — Her Highness Princess Sarvath opened at the French Cultural Centre in Amman Thursday an exhibition of paintings on silk.

On display for three days are paintings depicting natural scenery, Jordanian archaeological and tourist sites, and portraits of King Hussein and Crown Prince Hassan prepared by the centre.

One of the painters, Marlyn Dabbas, presented Princess Sar-

vath with a painting of Petra and a Turkish artist Oya Burhan, offered the princess a portrait of His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan, the Regent.

French ambassador to Jordan Jacques Alain de Sedouy was among those attending the opening ceremony which was also attended by members of the diplomatic corps in Jordan and an audience of invited guests and art lovers.

Amman to host population talks

AMMAN (Petra) — A two-day seminar on "Population and Development" will be held here by the Ministry of Labour on May 26.

The seminar is aimed at promoting population awareness and family planning, discussing the relation of population issues to social and economic development as well as encouraging the education, training and employment of women.

Anani, Abdul Rashid sign co-operation protocol

AOID agrees to help in industrial rationalisation

AMMAN (Petra) — Jordan and the Arab Organisation for Industrial Development Thursday signed a protocol of co-operation in the field of industry.

Under the terms of the protocol, the industrial survey which was conducted in Jordan in 1979 by the organisation will be updated and integrated into AOID's programme for 1985, the Jordan News Agency, Petra, said here.

AOID will also provide industrial services to the private sector in Jordan with a view to remedying some of the problems it faces.

It will also support the projects and studies undertaken by the Royal Scientific Society (RSS) on the industrial sector in Jordan, Petra said.

In particular small and light industrial enterprises in Jordan will be studied with the aim of developing them and helping to solve their problems.

The AOID, Petra added, will also issue a brochure on prospective industrial projects suited to Jordan detailing them in the order of priority, with the accent on agricultural related industries.

According to the agreement, Petra also said, the two parties will co-operate in the establishment of an industrial information centre at the Ministry of Industry, Trade and Tourism.

The protocol also involves the studying of existing industries, such as packing and packaging, with a view to developing them up

to plant level. Feasibility studies on some industries for producing electrical tools and appliances, irrigation pumps, artificial leather in addition to other items will be undertaken.

The two parties also agreed to hold a symposium on evaluating industrial projects in Jordan at the end of August and a seminar on a unified accounting system in 1985 to be followed by a costing accountancy course.

A technical team drawn from both sides will be formed to explore manufacturing opportunities in the less developed Arab countries.

Minister of Industry, Trade and Tourism, Dr. Jawad Al Anani,

signed the protocol for the ministry while Mr. Hatem Abdul Rashid signed it on behalf of the AOID.

Following the signature of the protocol, Dr. Anani delivered a speech in which he paid tribute to the AOID's efforts in supporting and developing Arab industries and expressed Jordan's readiness to support the AOID to help it achieve its goals.

Attending the signing ceremony were the Ministry of Industry, Trade and Tourism's under-secretary, Mr. Mohammad Saleh Al Hourani, director of industry at the ministry, Dr. Akram Karmoul, and Sami Ashour from the ministry, in addition to the delegation accompanying Mr. Abdul Rashid.



Minister of Industry, Trade and Tourism Jawad Al Anani (second from right) and Hatem Abdul Rashid (to his right) of the Arab Organisation for Industrial Development sign a co-operation protocol Thursday (Petra photo)

Arab economic organisations sign agreement to co-ordinate activities

AMMAN (Petra) — A new co-operation agreement between the Council of Arab Economic Unity

(CAEU) and the Arab Organisation for Industrial Development (AOID) was signed here Thursday, following the conclusion of talks between the two sides.

Secretary-General of the CAEU Mahdi Obeidi expressed his appreciation of the role played by the Arab economic institutions in supporting the efforts aimed at developing Arab industry on both the regional and national levels.

Speaking about the agreement, Mr. Obeidi said one of the important points included is the expansion and development of co-ordination between the general secretariats of the CAEU and the AOID especially in the fields of industrial integration.

The agreement, Mr. Obeidi added, provides for the forming of a joint committee which will meet once a year to follow up the implementation of the points agreed upon by both bodies and work on arranging the relation between the AOID and specialised industrial federations.

The agreement also included a special item on specialised industrial studies to avoid the duplication of work and to harness the expertise of both organisations in serving the goals of Arab economic integration.

Signing the agreement for the CAEU was Mr. Obeidi while Mr. Hatem Abdul Rashid signed on behalf of the AOID.

Jabri's drawings encapsulate the paradoxes of Pella

By Meg Abu Hamdan
Special to the Jordan Times



its snarling telephones and bureaucratic enmeshments to an atoll marooned in time and space."

Tomb 62

It was in an attempt to recreate this feeling of isolation, this "more metaphysical sense of hermetic sealing" that put the artist and the other occupants of Pella beyond politics and the news, beyond all normal daily considerations, that Jabri built the wonderfully atmospheric replica of Tomb 62 to house his works at the British Council.

Entering through a small doorway, complete with a perfect drawing of the old sign to Pella, you stand in the first of the two

main burial chambers. Surrounded by Jabri's spellbinding drawings which depict all aspects of his stay in Pella, hung on walls surface of which you are sure would crumble if touched, you immediately feel enclosed and protected in a comforting womb-like environment. For a few minutes you enter another world, a Pella world of soft filtered light, of peace and quiet, of magic and mystery.

The majority of Jabri's drawings depict some of the many hundreds of ceramics that were unearthed by the archaeologists this season alone. Most of the finds came from Tomb 62, the quantity and quality of the artifacts indicating that this was no ordinary burial chamber but the resting place of an August and perhaps ruling family.

"What made me stay on at Pella," said Jabri, "was this urgent sense of subdued excitement. There seemed to be an inexhaustible treasure house and it all seemed relevant to the physical identity of Jordan. Everyday the archaeologists would come down with another 100 pots, pots so totally resonant with historical imprints that you would immediately wonder "Whose hand touched it last?"

Flesh and earth

"There were a few other objects, cornelians, amber etc., but it was mostly ceramics and this was another beautiful thing because not only is the ancient world classified by its ceramics but in those days there was this idea of man being of the earth so in a sense, flesh and earth are one."

When drawing the pots (an activity that was often accompanied by slight teasing from the arc-

haeologists who would be drawing their own highly accurate scientific versions) Jabri would experience a kind of time warp. "They became so familiar that time became telescoped and the craftsman who fashioned the object became like someone with whom I had shaken hands yesterday."

Sometimes Jabri drew the pots singly, loose yet straight depictions that show their simple yet sensual and sophisticated curves and Jabri's love for them. Sometimes Jabri drew small groups delicately composed of exciting viewpoints. Best of all however are his drawings of great caches of pots, huge piles casually heaped like some ill-gotten loot, their depth and layers which echo the way they had lain for so many millennia given forceful clarity by the way Jabri layers the paper on which they are drawn.

Glowing with large sweeps of earthy colours, these drawings have mostly been executed freely and swiftly. Others, in particular "Ivories" whose silky sheen, (which has remained intact despite 4,000 years under the earth) has been rendered with academic precision.

Steve's Craina

It is drawings like "Steve's Craina" however which shows an ancient skull nestling in the strange environment of a bucket made out of old car tyres, that illustrates some of the fascinating paradoxes of Pella that Jabri found so stimulating. "You would suddenly come across an unexpected combination of dissonant elements that would bring you back to a more startling awareness of reality," he explained.

But the artifacts were not the only things to catch Jabri's eye, there was also the many other activities of the archaeologists and the magnificent scenery around the site. Many of the landscape drawings are rapid but lucid sketches full of the flocks of goats and sheep that came to represent for Jabri a certain timelessness. "View from Tomb 62" however is a wonderfully detailed and panoramic view of the whole area. There in the background are "the legendary mountains charged with emotions", while the inset filled foreground makes it a work of art of great creativity and originality.

Jabri's experience at Pella was not unmixing and it led him to seriously question Jordanian society's attitude to its art and culture (the litter and ugly modern installations at Pella illustrating its total disregard) and his own approach to art.

"There is a challenge now to people who want to be called artists in the Arab World, to produce a more relevant art form, not one that is the spurious copying of folk and Islamic art. Nobody has surfaced yet who has managed to capture the insane electronic mish mash, the hybridisation of the modern Arab World. Perhaps it is not the most relevant of issues but it is one that interests me."

The exhibition closes on Sunday May 20.



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Dr. Popplewell will lecture on the properties of magnetic materials and their implications for archaeology, space exploration, biology etc.

Spanish pianist to give May 22 recital at RCC

AMMAN (J.T.) — Spanish Pianist Antonio Baciero will shortly be in Amman to give a recital at the Royal Cultural Centre (RCC).

Mr. Baciero was born in Aranda de Duero in 1936 and began studying music at the age of seven before giving his first recital in Pamplona in 1946.

His international career began in 1961 when he won the Special Prize founded by Arturo Benedetti-Michelageli at the International "Viotti" competition in Italy. He has performed all over Europe and has toured the United States regularly since 1969.

In 1967, he was awarded the Juventudes Musicales Espanolas Prize for the best interpretation at the concert season in Madrid.

His contribution to the promotion of Spanish baroque music is critically recognised as being important and in 1975 he was nominated for the "Montaigne Prize" of the Von Stein Foundation in Hamburg, which was created for the contributions of Mediterranean countries to European culture.

In the same year he participated in the Albert Schweitzer centennial ceremony in France.

Subsequently, he was entrusted by the "General Mediterranean Foundation" in Madrid to prepare an anthology about Cabezón.

Mr. Baciero recently returned from a tour of the Soviet Union which constituted a great success, he having played in the Spanish



Antonio Baciero

music series held in the "Tchaikovsky" Conservatory of Moscow. His activities as a musician are also internationally recognised and his work can be found in diverse publications. Recently he has been named honorary member of the Bach Institute at the Baldwin-Wallace University in Ohio, U.S. and the University Cultural Society at Lake Forest College in Chicago. He has also been given the Official's Cross of the French Academy, Patrie, Art, Humanisme, Civisme.

Mr. Baciero has also recorded eight records on the RCA record label.

Antonio Baciero will play in Amman on May 22 at 8:00 p.m. The tickets are JD 2 and can be bought from the RCC.

Abdul Jaber tours Salt

AMMAN (Petra) — Labour Minister Tayseer Abdul Jaber Thursday made an inspection of three factories in the Salt region and looked into the conditions of labourers employed there.

He first called at a clothing factory and was briefed by the company manager on its production and marketing.

He then visited a factory for manufacturing furniture and was told that 60 per cent of the pro-

duction is marketed in Jordan and the rest goes to neighbouring Arab states.

The third stop was at a factory which makes wooden shutters where the manager outlined production and marketing programmes.

The minister was accompanied by senior officials from the Ministries of Labour and Industry, Trade and Tourism.

By Franz Schurmman

VIEW FROM AMERICA

Washington maintains a low profile on the Mideast

SAN FRANCISCO — The Middle East is being downplayed in American newspapers. An occasional article on Lebanon still appears. Naturally, the latest Palestinian attacks in Israel were reported. There is news of the huge Soviet offensive in Afghanistan. But even that news appears well within the inside pages. Foreign news now is mainly news from Central America, and Reagan's recent trip to China. Does this silence on the Middle East mean anything? Judging from the occasional comments emerging from Washington, it seems some sort of political settlement is emerging in Lebanon. Certainly the signs indicate that agreement is being worked out in the continuing discussions among Lebanese leaders and President Hafez Al Assad of Syria. The only comment one can make from an American perspective is that the Reagan

administration has decided not to make a hostile move towards Syria or to back Israel in any overt or covert move against Syria. Is that good or bad? It surely cannot be bad, because it "weakens" in fact if not in word the strategic co-operation agreement earlier concluded between the U.S. and Israel. It may seem like crumbs of bread to the Arabs, but the fact that the U.S. is allowing the new political order in Lebanon to be determined by Lebanese and Syrians alone is a subtle sign that the distance between the U.S. and Israel has grown wider. It would be impossible to expect the U.S. government, in an election year, to do more. The last thing the Reagan administration wants is some new scandal aroused by pro-Israeli elements in the U.S. political structure. The other news that has also appeared in the inside pages of

American newspapers is the agreement between the Soviet Union and Iraq under which the Soviets will re-supply Iraq with weapons. This news item too aroused no reaction. How remarkable? If it had been Nicaragua, the White House and the interference of "Soviet imperialism" in the Western hemisphere. Why no protest? Simply because the U.S. has also quietly decided to support Iraq in its war with Iran.

It is significant that for the first time since the Cold war began in 1947, the U.S. and the Soviet Union are backing the same country in its struggle with another country. Earlier in the four year old history of the Iranian Revolution, some factions in the U.S. government still urged that Washington be patient so that Iran could finally turn back to the U.S. just as China had done. We would back Iran and the Soviets would back Iraq! But the advocates of "tilting towards Iraq" won out, and now Iran has become an enemy. There are no signs from Washington that there is any expectation of U.S.-Iranian relations improving. But the Iran advocates of a few years ago saw a U.S.-Iran lineup confronting a Soviet-Iraq lineup. Now, instead, we and the Soviets find ourselves on the same side, even if uncomfortably. That fact cannot be all bad from an Arab perspective.

There is the ominous fact that oil prices are beginning to creep upwards. In the past that always has been a bad sign. Then there is talk of another Iranian "Al-Fajr" offensive. And, of course, there always is the infinite Israeli capacity to make trouble. All the Israelis need do is some trick vis-a-vis the West Bank like their earlier "annexations" of East Jerusalem and the Golan. Yet there are deeper historical trends and these must never be overlooked as people are rocked by the waves of current events. The Arab World is moving and the U.S. knows it must come to terms with that world. That was exactly the case between the U.S. and China, and Reagan's recent visit shows that despite all its blunders the U.S. finally came around to realising it had no choice but to come to terms with that great civilisation.

It is an election year, and the Reagan administration wants to trouble coming from so politically sensitive a region as the Middle East. Are there, in all this quietude, some small clouds in the sky that portend high winds or storms or worse? Yes, some.

Lebanon: A new government against the tug of history

By G.G. Labelle
Associated Press

BEIRUT — Prime Minister Rashid Karami's national unity government, struggling against historic divisions, faces the enormous task of rebuilding a nation that in some ways never existed. Many people remember Lebanon before the outbreak of civil war nine years ago as peaceful and prosperous. But it bore seeds of destruction planted even before its independence from France in 1943. In the struggle for independence, many Muslims resisted the plan to maintain the Christian-dominated entity of Lebanon. They favoured a union with Syria to make them part of a larger Arab World. The Christians feared such a union would see them swallowed

up in an Islamic society. Some even wanted to remain under France. But nationalists on both sides prevailed. An unwritten "national pact" divided political offices among the country's sects, based on estimates of their populations. The pact produced a Lebanon in which life was freer than elsewhere in the Arab World and prosperity came, at least to some. But it perpetuated loyalty to religious sects, feudal families and even outside political movements rather than to the nation. The fragile chain of statehood was continually strained — by a failed coup in 1949, by a forced presidential resignation in 1951 and by a civil war, albeit a small one, in 1958. In 1975, the chain snapped. It is that chain Mr. Karami is trying to reforge.

Mr. Karami, a Sunni Muslim, spent nine previous terms as prime minister and may know the power plays and shifting alliances of Lebanese politics better than anyone. He also has the backing of Syria. Mr. Karami headed off initial squabbling over the cabinet by naming one without even consulting its members. President Amin Gemayel, a Maronite Christian who chose Mr. Karami as prime minister after tilting away from Israel and towards Syria, persuaded Christian members to serve. A bit of compromise and pressure from Syria, backed by opposition militias, brought on key Shiite Muslim and Druze members. The 10th member in the half-Muslim, half-Christian cabinet is not yet convinced, but the Greek Orthodox Abdulla Al-

Rassi may still come around. Mr. Karami and Mr. Gemayel have formed a government pledged to work for peace. It includes leaders whose militias for nine years have been killing each other's fighters, along with thousands of civilians. It also takes up its task at a time that may be more ripe for peace than any in years, precisely because Lebanon is shattered. Something of a peace movement has developed. Two peace marches were cancelled because of renewed fighting May 5. That only increased public anger at what one woman called the determination of "the butchers" to silence the people. On Saturday (May 12), Lebanon had its first peace march, when children marched amid ghastly papier-mache carnival figures

depicting the horror of war. One group of boys and girls marched as hostages, blindfolded with their hands tied. Mr. Karami brought old enemies together, but they also are men who have failed to solve Lebanon's problems in the past. Already they are arguing over reuniting the army, which split along sectarian lines over the past eight months, as it did in 1975. They have not even gotten to the central issue. The Christians, as fearful today of being swallowed up as they were 40 years ago, still resist giving up power. The Muslims, who have grown into a clear majority, want their share. There is the problem, too, of removing the Israeli forces from South Lebanon. The tilt towards Syria has pla-

cated the mainly Druze and Muslim militias, at least for the moment. But the mainly Christian Lebanese forces militia, Syria's chief ally, has begun sliding away from its traditional leaders and deriding Syrian "hegemony." The militias are a problem themselves, both as individuals and tools of their leaders. Many know no life but fighting. They are paid for their work with money channelled from shadowy sources and take power from their assault rifles and grenade launchers. All these problems face Mr. Karami and his government. A genuine cease-fire will be difficult enough, and Mr. Karami has pledged something beyond — "a march towards peace." Few armies have faced a more difficult march.



Al Ra'i

New conclusion for the West Bank

By Milton Viorst

MERON BENVENIST preaches the proposition that Israeli colonisation of the West Bank, the territory seized from Jordan in 1967, has proceeded so far that it is "irreversible." Benvenisti, former deputy mayor of Jerusalem, reaches his conclusion after careful study of the West Bank's demography, land holding, investment, road transportation, administration. He contends that its sovereignty, unsettled under international law and United Nations resolutions, is irrelevant. The reality, he says, is that the West Bank is now and will inevitably remain Israeli.

Benvenisti's study, published in April as "The West Bank Data Project" by the American Enterprise Institute, has been the source of much controversy in and out of Israel. Paradoxically, it has been most applauded by Israel's current government, on the one hand, and the Arab World, on the other. To the Israeli government, the report proves the success of a policy of "restoring the biblical provinces of Judea and Samaria to their rightful place, Israel." To the Arabs, it is naked proof of Israeli expansionism and violation of international law. Meanwhile, those who aspire to a peaceful settlement of the Middle East conflict see the study as a document of despair. My own view is that Benvenisti has produced an admirable work of scholarship, and that his conclusion is dead wrong.

The transfer of territory is a political act. It can be buttressed by economic, administrative, even demographic measures. But it is not intrinsically permanent. The question is not whether this act, once done, can be undone, but at what price. The historical evidence does not back up Benvenisti. The American South changed flags twice from 1861 to 1865. Alsace went back and forth between France and Germany four times from 1870 to 1945. Though the circumstances which brought about these shifts were brutal, the transfers themselves were easy. Israeli governments since 1967 have been busy "creating facts" — to use a phrase deeply imbedded in Zionist history — in the West Bank. Labour, unclear in its objective, was desultory in its work, but Menachem Begin's Likud, elected in 1977, was not. Incorporation of the West Bank is a basic belief of Likud, which went about achieving it deliberately and without pity.

In saying it is now too late to undo Begin's deed, Benvenisti makes too much, in my judgment, of rather little. What Benvenisti really means is that the politics of the region favour the status quo. Israel lacks incentive, the United States lacks will, the Arabs lack power to provoke change. This situation, transitory though it may be, is perceived as reality. To Benvenisti, it is time for his country to face this reality, and the consequences of the "facts" it has created. If Israel is to continue ruling the territories, he says, morality demands that it grant equal rights to the Arabs living in them.

The Likud government does not agree, though it offers no alternative plan. It would like the Arabs to leave the West Bank, but they will not go. It will not offer them citizenship or invite them to vote in Israeli elections. Nearly all Israelis recognise that to extend the franchise to nearly two million Arabs currently living under Israel's flag would doom the Zionist dream of a Jewish state. So the government prolongs the uncertainty of the territory's legal status, declining formal annexation, justifying denial of rights by arguing that the Arabs' condition is "temporary." This leads Benvenisti to the conclusion that Israel, in prolonging its authority over the West Bank, is drifting inevitably into apartheid. The drift is poisoning the society and making a mockery of Zionism's century-old "democratic ideals."

Benvenisti will not say so, but I suspect his actual goal in this study is to shock Israelis into recognising the grim significance of the choices he sees before them: to sacrifice Israel's Jewish character or its "democracy," if not both. The alternative, Benvenisti notwithstanding, would be negotiations to restore the West Bank to Arab rule, in a framework consistent with Israeli security. It would mean disentangling the "facts" created in 17 years of occupation, at substantial financial political structure would be enormous.

But that is different from Benvenisti's contention that the situation is "irreversible." On that count, I am sure he is mistaken. If the political will were present, the solution would follow. But the present Israeli government values the territory more highly than a settlement with its neighbours.

Milton Viorst is a Washington writer who specialises in the Middle East. He wrote this article for the Washington Post.

Hondurans resent U.S. forces' presence

By Bernd Debusmann
Reuters

TEGUCIGALPA — Angry crowds yelling, "Yankies, go home" have focussed attention on growing resentment against the presence of thousands of United States troops in Honduras, centre of U.S. military operation in Central America. The shouts came from left-wingers during a May Day demonstration that brought almost 100,000 people to the streets of this sleepy capital. But after 15 months of almost continuous joint manoeuvres and the establishment of an extensive network of U.S. military bases, concern over the pervasive presence of the U.S. has begun spilling over to conservatives and moderates. "Honduras has been converted into a country semi-occupied by United States soldiers (who are here) without authorisation of our congress," said Mario Rivera Lopez, leader of the opposition Conservative National Party. In rare unanimity, both leftists and Conservatives fear that the U.S. military buildup here could drag Honduras into an all-out war with neighbouring Nicaragua, whose leftist rulers are a target of U.S. hostility. Diplomats say the vast majority of people in this backward country, the poorest in the Western hemisphere after Haiti, view the U.S. presence with indifference.

"Most don't care one way or the other," said a Latin American envoy. "But those who do have considerable misgivings." While most criticism is directed at the Reagan administration and its Central American policies, some U.S. nationals report signs of anti-Americanism on a more personal level. "I walked to the market in Tegucigalpa the other day and these boys shouted 'gringo dog of war' at me," said a U.S. secretary. "Not a very nice feeling." Non-U.S. foreigners say resentment against the U.S. presence has been sharpened by the high profile of military personnel. "There are Americans everywhere you look," said a European resident, "in the best hotels, in the market, in shops, bars, restaurants, on the beach, at the airport." The luxury Maya Hotel, the most expensive in the Honduran capital, is being used to accommodate American GIs in transit between the U.S. and the military bases dotted around Honduras. "What is this?" an astonished foreign businessman asked recently at the sight of crew-cut U.S. troops in camouflage combat fatigues queuing up at the reception counter of the Maya Hotel. "Is this an American military barracks or a hotel?" Diplomats say misgivings about the role of the U.S. have risen in direct proportion to the growth of

U.S. involvement since Ronald Reagan took office in 1981 and declared he was "drawing the line" against Communism in Central America. Since then, U.S. military assistance to Honduras has risen more than tenfold, from \$3.98 million in 1980 to 41 million this year. The U.S. has built or lengthened six airfields and spent \$19 million to improve the facilities of Palmerola air base, nerve centre of U.S. military operations. Two more airfields are under construction, adding to a network which also includes a military training centre and two sophisticated radar stations. But what worries some Hondurans most is the role of the U.S. Central Intelligence Agency (CIA) in funding, arming and advising right-wing insurgents operating from bases in Honduras against the ruling Sandinista National Liberation Front (FSLN) in Nicaragua. The insurgent force has swollen from an initial band of a few dozen into an army of some 10,000. In an advertisement timed to coincide with a session of parliament, the Leftist national power workers union recently reflected fears that operations by the insurgents, combined with joint Honduran-U.S. exercises, could provoke war with Nicaragua. "Please, legislators, do not lead us to the slaughterhouse," the advertisement said. "This is not a movie in which President Reagan

is the good guy..." The Conservative newspaper Tribuna, which often follows the government line, echoed similar feelings and referred to rebel raids across the border with Nicaragua. Efraim Diaz, the only representative of the moderate Christian Democratic Party in parliament, warned that the growing militarisation here is increasing rather than diminishing tensions. No date has been set for the end of joint manoeuvres which began in February 1983 and at their height involved more than 5,000 U.S. ground troops. A new set of war games began this month. During last year's exercises, dubbed Big Pine, U.S. troops set up roadblocks on several major highways. "The gringos stopped us and demanded to see our papers," said a lorry driver. "They behaved as if they owned Honduras." But while there is increasing concern over the U.S. presence, some Hondurans have welcomed it without reservation. Narciso Rodriguez, manager of a bank in Comayagua, where the Palmerola air force base is located, said: "The North American presence has favourably affected the business climate. Reports that the U.S. may stay here for 20 years has promoted investment." Since last autumn, three new discotheques have opened in Comayagua, several restaurants have been expanded, and four brothels began operations.

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ARABIC PRESS EDITORIALS

Friday

Al Ra'i: In search of excuses

IT IS difficult to foretell the consequences of the serious turn the Gulf war has taken by the Iranian air raids on the Saudi and Kuwaiti oil tankers, and the provocative intimidation which the U.S. Envoy Richard Murphy has exercised on the Gulf states during his recent and unsuccessful visit to the region. Murphy has tried to convince Kuwait, Saudi Arabia and the United Arab Emirates (UAE) to accept a U.S. "security" umbrella so that the U.S. can defend the two countries from what he termed as foreign dangers threatening them. But the three Gulf states refused the offer. A few weeks later, the Saudi and Kuwaiti oil tankers were exposed to shelling by Iran, which indicates that the shelling was ordered by the U.S. and thus it seemed like a justification for the U.S. to demonstrate that U.S. military presence in the area is necessary for securing the freedom of navigation in the Arabian Gulf. This intention was reflected by the undertaking which Larry Speakes has pronounced to safeguard navigation in the area. The incoherent American stand during the Iran-Iraq war, which Iraq has condemned more than once, and the American attempt to impose U.S. military presence in the area indicate that the American pledge did not rise from U.S. concern over the safety of navigation in the Gulf, but was the outcome of events which paved the way for it. Thus the U.S. is exercising its double-faced role in the Gulf area. While attempting to appear in the guise of the protector of the freedom of navigation in the Gulf, it works for placing the Gulf area under its umbrella. Hence, it can be said that the American promises to safeguard navigation in the Gulf is a step which has been prepared for beforehand, and is perhaps meant to speed up the conversion of the area into a hot spot of international tension. We hope that this serious development will alert Arabs into shouldering their responsibility and putting an end to Iran's persistence to pursue the war.

Sawt Al Shaab: Jerusalem Day

THE CELEBRATION by the Arab and Muslim worlds of Jerusalem Day Friday is a political and international demonstration, which should be the starting point to a serious march in which all efforts should unite and live up to the great responsibility. Jerusalem is now subjected to the ugliest attack it has ever witnessed and is about to become a den for terror. Israel is now trying to announce it as its capital and a base for pursuing killing, bloodshed, destruction and to convert it into a city of hatred and racialism, after it has always been a city for peace and tolerance. Jerusalem is an Arab city, but responsibility for protecting it is not the responsibility of Arabs only. It is the responsibility of the whole world, since it represents the whole world's civilisations and religions. The whole world is nowadays asked to stand firmly in the face of plots to Judaize it and to obliterate its holy places and human heritage. Attention of the whole world is today directed to Jerusalem to see the killing and destruction of its values, holiness and heritage, in addition to the prosecution and discrimination exercised by the Israelis against the legitimate inhabitants of the holy city. Our Arab people, as well as other nations of the world are expressing their solidarity with Jerusalem and the Arab people of Palestine in their continuous struggle for a just peace and until Jerusalem is restored. The whole Arab World today expresses its solidarity with the Palestinian people and supports their struggle to achieve their rights to self-determination and to establishing their own independent state on their national soil, with Jerusalem as its capital.

Thursday

Al Ra'i: Just a co-incidence?

THE ISRAELIS celebrated their success in holding a Zionist conference in Morocco by carrying out a massacre in the Palestinian refugee camp of Ain Al Hilweh near the Lebanese town of Sidon. The new massacre, in which scores of people were either killed or injured and homes demolished by Israeli bulldozers came as a clear message to Morocco and other Arab states indicating that the Israelis will pursue their goals in the region whatever the attempt by individual Arab states are to try to create an atmosphere conducive to peace. The massacre at Ain Al Hilweh was a message of mockery of Arab peaceful attempts and also a blow to the morale of the Arab masses. Arab masses can never understand the invitation of Zionist to Morocco and their welcome there will at the same time and almost simultaneously Zionists were carrying out a new massacre in a Palestinian refugee camp. The masses demand that their leaders should respond to their calls and their needs and do something against the Zionist atrocities and taken action vis-a-vis the Zionist meeting in Morocco. The Arab leaders should readily agree on holding a summit to discuss the pressing issues and find a way to avert further disasters.

Al Dustour: New criminal act

THE NEW massacre committed by Israel against the Palestinian refugees of the Ain Al Hilweh camp south of Sidon provides another proof of the criminal nature of the Israelis. The barbarism with which the Zionists carried out their massacre, their demolition of homes and killing of women and children ought to be condemned by world nations and should bring all countries in the world to their senses. Palestinians in Lebanon have been exposed to a series of criminal actions by the Israelis and their agents and they have fallen victim to many Zionist barbaric attacks over the past years. The international community should find a way of putting an end to these massacres and to question those who continue to extend support and financial and military help to the Israelis to enable them to pursue their aggression. The Arab World too should wake up and take action. The general feeling of indifference now prevailing in the Arab World should end and Arab leaders should realise that the time has come for action.

Sawt Al Shaab: Desperate attempts

IRAN'S AIR attacks on Saudi and Kuwaiti oil tankers reflect that country's desperate attempts to try to win a victory or at least to prove that it is going ahead with the war to the end. The escalation of the war activities and Iran's attacks prove also that its forces have been unable to achieve any successes against Iraq or win a victory promised them by Khomeini. The regime in Tehran is now undergoing military pressure from the armed forces and faces domestic problems and international denunciation for their policies. What the Iranian leaders are doing now is trying to instigate Gulf nations against Iraq and forcing them to accept the Iran's terms. They are in fact playing their last cards in an attempt to achieve some kind of success. But in so doing, the Iranians are opening the door wide for foreign intervention and causing the Gulf region to become an arena for superpower rivalry. The Iranians are wrong to believe that their attacks on tankers will force the Arabs to pressure the Israelis to succumb to Iranian terms, because Iraq is not responsible for the safety of oil traffic in the Gulf as long as Iran continues to endanger the safety of the Gulf states and their oil supplies.

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Jordan beats Iraq in Arab Cup soccer

AMMAN (J.T.) — Jordan scored their first ever soccer victory over Iraq Friday by winning the Arab Cup Group 4 clash 3-2 after extra time.

The match held at Amman's Sports City stadium was attended by President of the Jordanian Football Association, Mr. Abdul Raouf Al Rawabdeh deputising for his Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan, the Regent.

Iraq opened the scoring with a goal in the 44th minute scored by Hussein Saeed. But Jordan struck back in the 52nd and 67th minute with goals by Jamal Abu Al Abed and Jamal Ibrahim.

Hussein Saeed fired his and Iraq's second goal in the 73rd minute and the match was a 2-2 draw at the end of the ninety minutes.

had agreed that the return leg in Baghdad would not be held and decided that Friday's match must be conclusive, going into extra

time, or penalty kicks to decide the winner.

So after the ninety minutes 2-2 draw the match carried over to a further two 15 minutes periods.

Jordan scored the winning goal in the third minute of the first extra time half through striker Khaled Awad. From that point to the end both teams fought a tough battle with Jordan trying to preserve the lead and Iraq hoping to salvage a point to take home.

Despite the result, both teams qualified for the Arab Cup finals to be held in Saudi Arabia at the end of this year.

Others teams in Group 4, Palestine, Lebanon and Syria had earlier last month withdrew from the tournament.

U.S. proposes pact with Soviets to ban Olympic boycotts

LAUSANNE, Switzerland (R) — The United States Friday proposed an agreement with the Soviet Union under which both countries would renounce any future Olympic boycott.

The bilateral agreement proposal was put to an emergency meeting of the executive board of the International Olympic Committee (IOC) by U.S. Olympic chief Bill Simon who said it was greeted enthusiastically.

"The IOC has told me good luck, they fully endorse it," Simon, U.S. Olympic committee president, told reporters after the

meeting.

Simon said he told the meeting that "it is important that the Soviet Union and the United States initial an agreement to ban boycotts which can be signed later by other members of the movement."

He said the proposal came from the U.S. Olympic committee and not from the American government.

Soviet Olympic delegates, who met the board separately earlier, had no immediate response to the suggestion. Soviet sources said the delegation was seeking guidance from Moscow.

Asian Group B countries meet

AMMAN (J.T.) — Representatives of Asian Group B World Soccer Cup qualifying nations Thursday held a meeting in Doha, Qatar to discuss the preparatory matches for the group's countries. Al Rai newspaper reported Friday.

During the meeting which was attended by Qatar, Jordan and Lebanon's representatives, it has been decided that matches be held during the period from March 15 through May 15, 1985.

Representative of Iraq, the 4th member of Group B did not attend the meeting in view of re-formation of the board of directors of the soccer federation there.

Fuheis sports stadium opened

AMMAN (Petra) — Deputising for Minister of Culture, Youth and Antiquities, Mr. Mohammad Jamil Abu Al Tayyeb, Director General of the Youth Welfare Organisation inaugurated the sports stadium at Fuheis on Thursday.

On this occasion a friendly soccer match between the Al Ahli Soccer team and Fuheis Youths team in which the home team was beaten 1-2.

At the end of the match Mr. Abu Al Tayyeb presented medals to members of the two teams.

Petra Bank wins bridge tournament

AMMAN (J.T.) — An inter-club bridge tournament for intermediate level players was held Friday at UKAS Club (United Kingdom graduates club).

Local teams from interested clubs participated in the tournament with Petra Bank team winning the competition. UKAS B team coming second and AUB Alumni, Orthodox Club, UKAS A and YWCA teams 3rd, 4th, 5th, 6th respectively.

Watford, Everton clash in English F.A. Cup final

LONDON (R) — Watford manager Graham Taylor will be providing his team with their usual attacking pep-talk before they take on Everton in the English Football Association (F.A.) Cup final at Wembley Stadium here Saturday.

Ignoring the criticism of his team's direct old-fashioned style of play, Taylor will lay his customary emphasis on the work of his young wingers Nigel Callaghan and John Barnes as Watford bid to land the famous trophy at their first attempt.

Taylor believes Wembley, with its larger-than-average pitch and excellent playing surface, will give his four-man attack the perfect opportunity to thrill a world-wide television audience and provide a memorable spectacle.

"With its extra width, Wembley should be the perfect stage for wingers of the quality of John Barnes and Nigel Callaghan — but we've got to give them the service," he said.

Taylor regards his wingers as

the most talented players in their positions in the English first division, where the predominant pattern of soccer is still provided by teams playing in a cautious 4-4-2 formation, without wingers.

Watford's Merseyside opponents Everton, who finished seventh in the first division this season, are a good example of this establishment style of first division soccer.

After a poor first half to the season, they recovered to reach the League Cup final against Liverpool in March as well as the F.A. Cup final in which they will be seeking their fourth victory in their eighth appearance.

Midfield stalwart Peter Reid said that the arrival of Scottish international striker Andy Gray changed their fortunes.

"Gray was signed at a good psychological moment to give us a lift," he said. "We are now a very difficult side to beat, we are solid all the way through. Just imagine how Watford must feel — if they do get past our back four, they've

still got to beat the best keeper in the league."

Everton's goalkeeper is Welsh international Neville Southall who stands behind a defence, dominated by his Welsh colleague Kevin Ratcliffe, that has conceded only 42 league goals this season — the fifth best record in the first division.

By contrast, Watford's defence had the second poorest record and conceded 77 goals and Saturday will be without its left-back and captain Will Rostron, who is suspended.

The clash of styles is laid bare by the team's attacking records. Watford, with a front line dashing led by the Scottish international Maurice Johnston and his lanky partner George Reilly, have scored 68 league goals. Everton, with a strike duo of Gray and Graeme Sharp have scored only 44.

Everton's ability to stifle their opponents by denying them any space will be tested by the pace and skill of Callaghan and Barnes, both in the latest England squad.

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Regan thinks deficit cuts decrease interest rates

PARIS (R) — U.S. Treasury Secretary Donald Regan said Friday that the administration's efforts to cut future budget deficits would have a "psychological" impact on world financial markets and that U.S. interest rates would come down "over the long term."

He was speaking at a press breakfast following news late Thursday that the Senate had passed with one amendment the administration's "down payment" budget package to cut the deficit by \$142 billion over three years.

The first year effect would be to reduce the projected near \$200 billion deficit by about 27 billion in the 1985 fiscal year, he said.

This latest development has reinforced the prospect of the administration getting congressional approval soon.

It was a timely move for Mr. Regan who was expected to face some tough questioning here Friday from finance ministers attending the two-day annual council of the Organisation for Economic

Co-operation and Development (OECD) on the recent increase in U.S. interest rates.

The U.S. administration has been under strong pressure from its major economic partners to reduce its massive budget deficits — a move seen as essential to reducing interest rates, and the value of the dollar on world currency markets.

Mr. Regan said that he expected the Senate and House "downpayment" proposals would go into conference to reach a compromise after the Memorial Day recess at the end of May.

He made clear he personally did not think there was any direct link between the deficits and interest rates.

But he added: "For those who want to make a direct linkage between deficits and interest rate cuts, it shows that we are on the right track," adding "some of us do not make that linkage."

Insurers count Gulf losses, see possible higher rates

LONDON (R) — A U.S. intervention in the Gulf to safeguard international shipping following Wednesday's attack on a Saudi tanker would increase tension and prompt further rises in insurance rates, a London insurer said Thursday.

Stephen Merrett, a leading underwriter at Lloyd's of London and a member of its governing body, was commenting on the repercussions of the air attack on the 215,000-tonne Yanbu Pride in Saudi Arabian waters.

He told a news conference the raid, the fifth on a vessel in the Gulf this week, had already prompted insurers to extend the area covered by so-called war risk insurance to the previously peaceful southern shore of the Gulf.

Mr. Merrett said he accepted reports from the Gulf that Iran was responsible for the Yanbu Pride attack, although he noted

that most previous attacks on shipping in the four-year-old Gulf war had been carried out by Iraq. The situation was liable to "get worse before it gets better", Mr. Merrett said. "If the Iranians hope to get any effect from this gesture, it has to be pursued a little way."

Mr. Merrett said further attacks on shipping would bring corresponding increases in war risk rates but would any super-power decision to intervene.

Commenting on the possibility that Saudi Arabia and its Gulf allies might use force to defend their shipping, Mr. Merrett said: "I don't think legitimate acts of national defence by the Saudis would worry underwriters... the general perception in the Gulf would be quite different if the Saudis were involved or the United States."

He said super-power involvement would invite retaliation and would significantly increase tension in the area. But he added: "It is likely that there would be no great power intervention until the situation deteriorated further."

Mr. Merrett said shipowners were now more concerned about the safety of their vessels and crews in the Gulf than they were about rapidly increasing insurance charges.

Insurance rates offered as of Wednesday show sharp rises in premiums for a large number of ports in the southern and western Gulf, including Ras Tanura, near where the Yanbu Pride was hit.

War risk premiums on vessels rose from 0.075 per cent of insured value to 0.25 per cent for

southern Gulf destinations, with corresponding increases for southern Iranian ports.

For more exposed Iranian ports at the head of the Gulf, including Kharg Island, the war risk premium on cargoes was increased from two per cent to three per cent of value.

Mr. Merrett said the cost of insuring a laden supertanker out of Kharg had risen from around \$500,000 six months ago to \$1.75 million Thursday.

He said Lloyd's underwriters estimated losses suffered in attacks on vessels in recent weeks at about \$100 million.

Underwriters grouped at Lloyd's, which handles the bulk of international marine insurance, lost \$300 million at the start of the Gulf war when foreign vessels were trapped in the Shatt Al Arab estuary between Iran and Iraq, Mr. Merrett said.

Dollar at 3 month high against yen

TOKYO (R) — Concern over tension in the Gulf pushed the dollar to a three-month high against the Japanese yen Friday, sparking another decline in Tokyo share prices.

Currency dealers said the Bank of Japan sold about \$300 million to support the yen. But it failed to stem the surge and the dollar reached 234.15 yen at midday compared with 232.93 in New York Thursday night.

The rise reflected Japanese worries about the situation in the Gulf, source of most of the country's oil, as well as expectations that U.S. interest rates will remain high, dealers said.

The dollar closed in Tokyo at 233.85 yen while the stock market index fell 213.63 points to end the day at 10,126.88.

FORECAST FOR SATURDAY, MAY 19, 1984

YOUR DAILY Horoscope

from the Carroll Righter Institute

GENERAL TENDENCIES: A day when you should have an organized plan of action under which to get down-to-earth type of duties performed, but you will find some upsetting condition can cross your path.

ARIES (Mar. 21 to Apr. 19) Get out into the outside world and accomplish a good deal and persevere even though tempted to turn to some other outlet.

TAURUS (Apr. 20 to May 20) Carry through with ideas you have in mind and make your dreams come true. You must be practical at this time.

GEMINI (May 21 to June 21) You have many practical things to do so keep busy at them and don't fall for some silly temptation. Do small tasks for your mate.

MOON CHILDREN (June 22 to July 21) Get in touch with associates today and come to a fine agreement for the future. Avoid heavy work. Be happy.

LEO (Jul. 22 to Aug. 21) Get your duties so arranged that they can be efficiently handled, even if you have to forego pleasure for the time being.

VIRGO (Aug. 22 to Sept. 22) Get as many plans worked out early and stop wasting time sitting around lazily. Take the one you love to a delightful place.

LIBRA (Sept. 23 to Oct. 22) Though you may have to do some marketing and shopping, your home is your best bet today and tonight. Invite friends in.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23 to Nov. 21) Contact those who are unavailable during the busy work days and enjoy hobbies, etc. Handle business affairs wisely.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22 to Dec. 21) Get into practical affairs that are important today and make a new plan to have greater prosperity.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22 to Jan. 20) Forget private anxieties and do all that angling that can gain you down-to-earth goals that are typically Capricorn in nature.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 21 to Feb. 19) Think about how to gain practical aims that are important to you. Avoid that pal who could lead you down the primrose path.

PISCES (Feb. 20 to Mar. 20) Look to an ideal friend who has fine ideas that can bring you much progress. Then forget the practical in the evening and be social.

IF YOUR CHILD IS BORN TODAY... he or she will be one who will be very practical in nature and should have the finest education possible. Find some way of acquainting your progeny with powerful person early in life who can be very supportive. Teach to resist going off on tangents.

"The Stars impel; they do not compel." What you make of your life is largely up to you!
© 1984, The McNaught Syndicate, Inc.

LONDON STOCK MARKET

LONDON (R) — The market closed lower in response to a number of factors including fears of higher interest rates, increased tension in the Mideast Gulf and the liquidity problems at Continental Illinois, dealers said. At 1500 hrs the F.T. 30 index shed 8.7 at 875.8 and the F.T.-S.E. 100 fell 7.7 to 1105.3.

Government bonds were depressed for much of the session by Thursday's higher than expected April U.K. PSBR figure and Friday's 1.3 pct rise in the April U.K. retail sales index. Prices, however, regained about 1/4 point on the firmer opening in U.S. credit markets to show net falls ranging to 1/4 point. Gold shares and North Americans were lower.

Hanson Trust fell 8p on profit-taking after its recent gain. Thorn EMI eased 6p to 561. Glaxo was down 5p at 830 and JCI was off 8p at 592.

Banks ended steady in cautious trading after the U.S. Federal Reserve said it would meet any extraordinary liquidity requirements of Continental Illinois, dealers said. Lloyds eased 3p to 564 but Natwest was unchanged at 649. Insurances were quietly mixed but broker CE Heath rose 15p to 423 on Thursday's full year results, dealers said.

Oils were quietly mixed with B.P. up 4p at 530 and Shell down 6p at 690 on profit-taking after Thursday's Royal Dutch results.

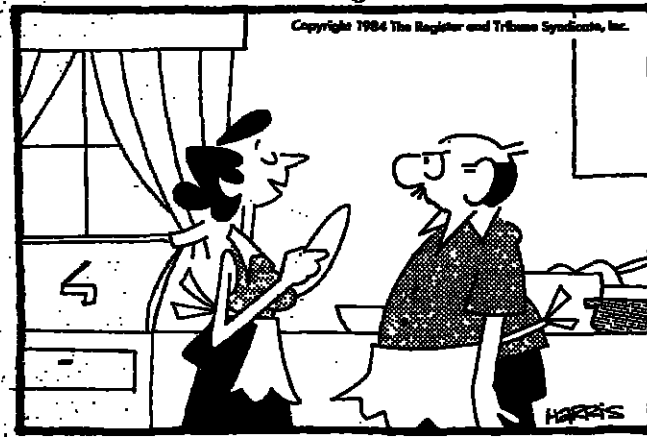
LONDON EXCHANGE RATES

LONDON (R) — Following are the buying and selling rates for leading world currencies and gold against the dollar at midday on the London foreign exchange and bullion markets Friday.

One sterling	1.386777	U.S. dollars
One U.S. dollar	1.295760	Canadian dollars
	2.773040	West German marks
	3.115565	Dutch guilders
	2.27902800	Swiss francs
	56.2932	Belgian francs
	8.5075125	French francs
	1707.25/1708.25	Italian lire
	233.15/25	Japanese yen
	8.1150/1200	Swedish crowns
	7.8575/8625	Norwegian crowns
	10.1350/1450	Danish crowns
One ounce of gold	374.50/375.00	U.S. dollars

THE BETTER HALF.

By Harris



"I'll wash. You moan, grumble, complain, bicker — and dry!"

JUMBLE

THAT SCRAMBLED WORD GAME by Henri Arnold and Bob Lee

Unscramble these four Jumbles, one letter to each square, to form four ordinary words.

GYTAN

MAGDO

TADEEB

ZARBLE

WHAT THE DOCTOR CHARGED TO FIX UP THE GUY WHO INJURED HIS ELBOW AND KNEE.

Now arrange the circled letters to form the surprise answer, as suggested by the above cartoon.

Print answer here: AN & A

(Answers tomorrow)

Saturday's Jumbles: NOISE SHEEP DEPUTY NEGATE

Answer: That story about the dog with the wagging tail had this — A HAPPY ENDING

U.S. Senate approves budget deficit cuts

WASHINGTON (R) — The Senate has given President Reagan a victory on his plan to cut U.S. budget deficits by \$142 billion over three years by freezing non-defense spending and raising taxes.

The proposal was approved on a 65-32 vote Thursday despite complaints by opposition Democrats that defense spending should also be cut to relieve pressure on rising U.S. interest rates.

The plan would raise military spending levels by an average of seven per cent over the three-year span and freeze at 1984 levels "most discretionary spending on domestic programmes."

The specific programme reductions were not spelled out but would amount to \$93.2 billion over three years. The plan includes \$48.3 billion in higher revenues, among them increased cigarette, wine and liquor taxes.

The Senate package must be reconciled with a plan approved by the Democratic-controlled House of Representatives which would reduce deficits by a total of \$182 billion in the financial years 1985, 1986 and 1987.

Mr. Reagan originally sought a \$150-billion "down payment" on deficit reductions as a way to help hold down the upward pressures on interest rates which have been worrying many domestic and international financiers.

But Democrats charged during the debate that the Reagan plan would raise the deficits gradually after 1985. They lost all attempts to make further cuts, mainly on defence.

Washington to stand behind banks

PARIS (R) — The \$7.5 billion rescue package for Continental Illinois Bank announced Thursday showed that the U.S. government stood firmly behind its banking system, Treasury Secretary Donald Regan said here Friday.

He said the package put together by the U.S. government and private banks, "should put to rest any of the rumours of the Continental Illinois Bank not being able to finance itself."

"We will make sure that there are no calamities in the banking system," Mr. Regan said, but he made it clear that this did not mean all existing banks would necessarily stay independent.

Mr. Regan here, said the most obvious solution for the bank was a merger, "but this does not necessarily have to take place."

Continental Illinois Chairman David Taylor said Thursday that the bank was contacting the world's 50 largest banks in search of a merger partner.

Mr. Regan said difficulties for the eighth largest U.S. bank had arisen from its loans to the deflated energy industry, and said the treasury had been working on the problem for over a week.

Banking sources said Continental Illinois' expansion of its list of possible merger partners meant that it was having difficulty finding a suitable partner in the United States.

Mr. Taylor said a merger was not inevitable for the bank, which has had a reputation for conservative management of its funds for generations.

He said several programmes

U.S. farm exports to reach \$38b

WASHINGTON (AP) — Exports of U.S. agricultural products are expected to be worth \$38 billion in the fiscal year ending Sept. 30, up 9 per cent from 1982-83, the Agriculture Department said Thursday.

The value of farm exports rose to record levels for 12 consecutive years to a peak of \$43.8 billion in 1980-81 before declining to \$39.1 billion in 1981-82 and \$34.8 billion in 1982-83.

But the report said the actual volume of shipments will decline to about 142 million metric tons, from 144.8 million in 1982-83. Yet officials noted the latest forecast was up two million tons from predictions in February because of improved prospects for shipments of feed grains, soybeans and cotton.

Shipments of "coarse" grains, which include corn and other feed grains, were projected at 56.1 million tons and valued at \$8.6 billion, compared to 53.8 million tons worth \$6.58 billion last year.

"Several countries, notably (South) Korea and South Africa, have been importing low-grade wheat for feed use," the report said. "Nevertheless, South Africa, Korea, Japan and the Soviet Union have purchased large amounts of U.S. feed grains."

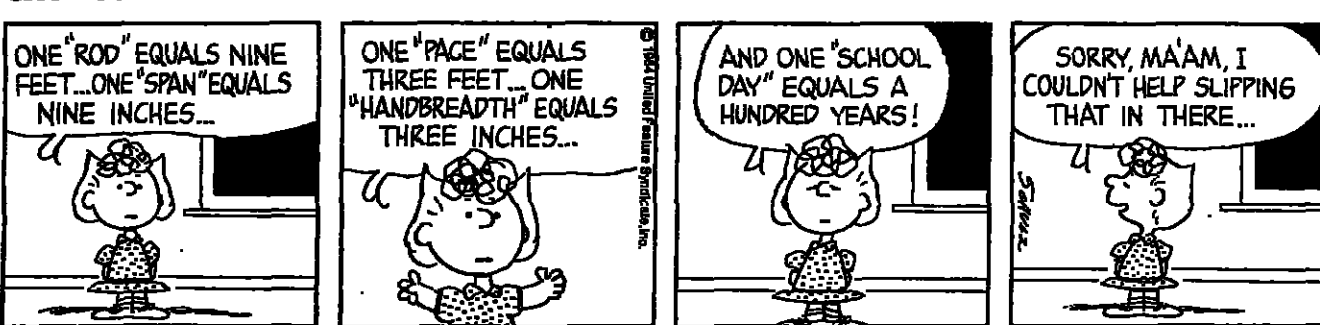
Turkish wholesale prices rise in April

ANKARA — Turkey's wholesale price index rose 6.4 per cent in April compared with March to 8056.4 (base 1963 equals 100), and was 50.2 per cent higher than a year earlier, according to official figures released this week.

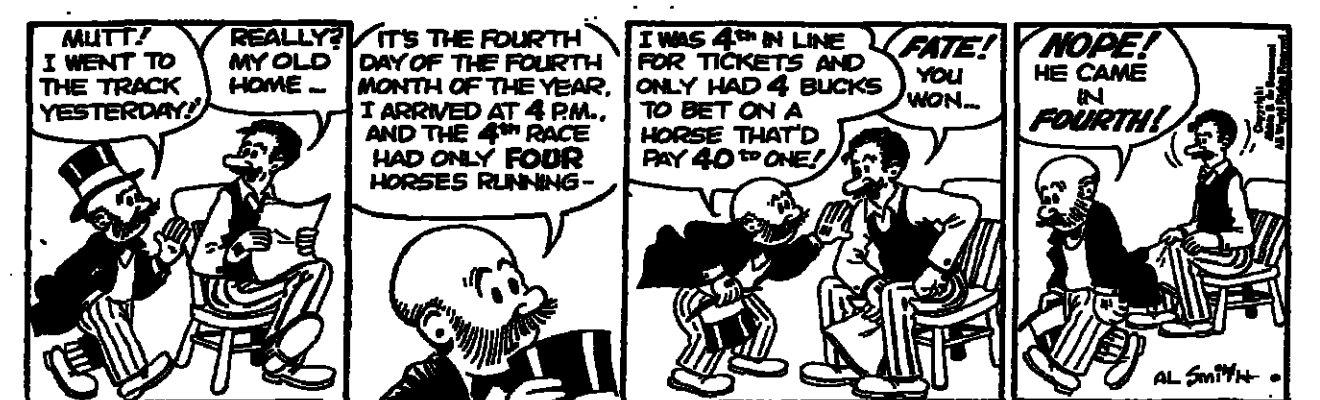
The increase, which followed a spate of recent price rises, showed a marked deterioration from March, when prices rose 2.3 per cent from February to stand at 44.3 per cent above the March 1983 level.

The government's official target of 25 per cent inflation over the whole of this year is now certain to be exceeded. But Prime Minister Turgut Ozal has said he expects the rate of increase to slow in the second half of the year to an annual rate of 25 per cent by the year end.

Peanuts



Mutt 'n' Jeff



Andy Capp

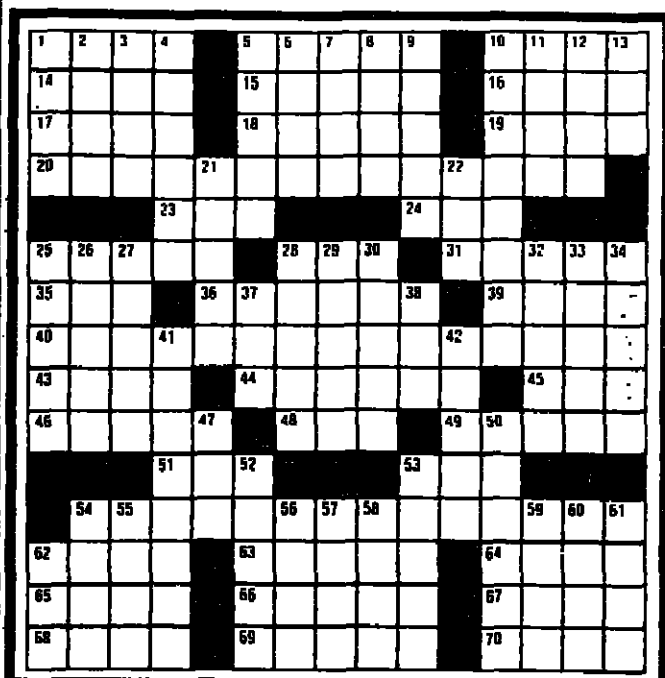


THE Daily Crossword by William Canine

ACROSS	1 Autocrat	28 Neighbor of Para.	62 Suspended	27 Fr. exclamation
DOWN	5 Reminders	31 Comb	63 Stirling	28 To the left,
	10 Luna or cecropia	35 Sp. gold	64 Pot	29 nautically
	14 Country cousin?	38 Tainted	65 Former Secy. of State	29 Nickname of William II of Eng.
	15 "She wrenth of roses"	39 Actress	66 Treasure	30 Seize
	16 Tract	40 Great guy	67 Extinct birds	30 Psychologist Have-lock
	17 Praise for a toreador	41 Burrow	68 Smashes	33 One-masted vessel
	18 Enoch — space	42 Reliable	69 Sub detector	34 Furious
	19 Cherrytone	43 Charged atom	70 Crooked	37 Assembled
	20 Challenging invitation	44 Cluttered forest		38 Newt
	23 Mothers	45 Cook's abbr.		41 Savings
	24 Comp. pt.	46 Grating		42 Medieval court
	25 "— Against Thebes"	47 — up (dress)		43 Circuits
		48 Energy		47 Garden implement
		49 Wild carrot		50 Poise
				52 No-see-ums
				53 Pumpkin
				54 — d'Orsay
				55 Body of troops
				56 Certain hair-do
				57 "High—"
				58 Brilliant star
				59 Desert plant
				60 Tribe
				61 Orient
				62 LBJ's VP

Yesterday's Puzzle Solved:

SAC	SLAW	ASTIA
TROT	NOOSE	NEGN
ATERO	ALON	ASTATE
BANCIR	NEIR	LAW
RIARD	SIAM	
MOUNTAIN	STIFFES	
AMS	STAIN	SMILE
SAK	EREDIT	IRON
SHED	WERTIS	MARIO
EDAINED	LDNESTAD	
ATIES	NINES	
ASP	BATE	EDITOR
LODOLAKES	ZAME	
LOU	EVENIT	ETION
STET	REDS	FERE



Congress to vote again on aid to El Salvador

WASHINGTON (R) — Backers and opponents of President Reagan's Central America policy have agreed to force new congressional votes on aid to El Salvador and to rebels fighting the Nicaraguan government.

The lines were drawn Thursday as House and Senate negotiators reached agreement on all other items but these in a \$1 billion supplementary spending bill for 1985. The Republican-controlled Senate had included \$61.7 million in military aid for the U.S.-backed Salvadoran government plus \$21 million for Nicaragua's anti-Sandinist guerrillas in the massive funding bill. But the House of Representatives did not.

Friday's Senate negotiators refused to back down on support for the Nicaraguan rebels and House negotiators refused to retreat on opposition to the El Salvador money.

"The House has never voted on (the \$21-million request for) Nicaragua. This will get them a chance to vote," said Senator Ted Stevens of Alaska, who argued the administration's position.

The House last year rejected funding for the Central Intelligence Agency's covert war in Nicaragua. But it later accepted a compromise spending package of

\$24 million. House Democratic leaders have predicted that it will reject Mr. Reagan's request for an additional \$21 million passes by the Senate this year.

But Sen. Stevens and Under-Secretary of State William Schneider said they thought House approval last week of Mr. Reagan's broad 1985 aid plan for Central America suggested a shift of mood.

Mr. Schneider also said the election of moderate Jose Napoleon Duarte as next president of El Salvador could make the House more amenable to Mr. Reagan's position.

"The new government of El Salvador wants us to continue our activities in the region, including Nicaragua, so we have a different situation than we did a few weeks ago," he said.

He also said congressional anger over CIA involvement in the mining of Nicaraguan harbours has receded as an issue. Democratic Representative

Clarence Long said that, in the light of House approval last week of Mr. Reagan's Central American plan, he and other critics of military aid to El Salvador could lose on the vote on \$61.7 million in new funding.

Duarte to visit U.S.

El Salvador's President-Elect Jose Napoleon Duarte left Thursday for a two-day visit to neighboring Central American countries followed by a trip to Washington over the weekend.

Mr. Duarte told Reuters his visits to Guatemala, Honduras, Costa Rica and the United States would acquaint their presidents with his plans to strengthen democracy and bring peace to El Salvador, ravaged by more than four years of civil war.

Mr. Duarte, who will take office on June 1, received credentials as president-elect on Wednesday and thanked his countrymen for "the support and understanding that will allow us to move ahead."

"We have the conviction and commitment to confront all the problems that face us," Mr. Duarte told a gathering of government officials, diplomats and over a thousand cheering supporters.

Sri Lanka extends emergency rule

COLOMBO (R) — Sri Lanka, plagued by guerrilla violence and ethnic unrest, Friday completed one year under emergency rule and President Junius Jayewardene immediately extended the state of emergency for a further month.

Mr. Jayewardene ordered the extension as an American couple, released after being held to ransom under threat of death by separatist guerrillas, prepared to leave the island.

The emergency was first declared on May 18 last year to deal with violence which threatened to erupt after parliamentary and local elections.

Since then Mr. Jayewardene has extended it every 30 days as guerrilla activity increased and ten-

sion between the majority Sinhalese and minority Tamils heightened.

The killing of 13 Sinhalese soldiers in the northern district of Jaffna last July by Tamil guerrillas sparked ethnic violence in which nearly 400 people died.

The government has armed troops with additional powers to deal with violence under the emergency.

The opposition has opposed the country-wide extension of the emergency. Some opposition members have urged the government to confine it to the troubled northern and eastern provinces.

The government has countered

by saying that while guerrilla violence continued in the northern and eastern areas, crime had also increased in other provinces.

Guerrillas fighting for a separate state for minority Tamils stepped up violence last month in the Jaffna district, ambushing service patrols, killing police and attacking state property.

On May 10 the guerrillas kidnapped Mr. Stanley Dryson Allen, 36, and his wife Mary, 29, from their home in Jaffna and held them for five days.

A U.S. Embassy spokesman said Friday the couple, freed on Tuesday, were preparing to leave for their home in Columbus, Ohio, after their ordeal. They will take the first plane out Friday night or Saturday, he told Reuters.

French gunman commits suicide after killing two

LA ROCHE-SUR-FORON, France (R) — One of two gunmen who killed a policeman and another man Thursday committed suicide as a massive manhunt was underway in south-east France, police said.

They said Henri Gruffat, 21, was found by a motorway near the town of Anney. He had shot himself through the mouth with a rifle, they said.

The search was continuing for his partner.

Police said this Alpine town had been sealed off by roadblocks and the Swiss border some 15 kilometres away had been closed, following the shooting which began when police foiled a raid on

a factory. They said a 26-year-old policeman died immediately when he was shot in the head with a hunting rifle at the factory, while his colleague was hit in an arm and shoulder.

The gunman fled to a nearby house where they killed a 34-year-old cabinet maker and shot his wife in the stomach before seizing the couple's car. The woman's condition was said to be serious.

A witness told reporters he had called the police after hearing the sound of breaking glass at the factory. He then heard shots, saw men running and found a policeman lying dead.

U.S., Mexico strengthen ties despite differences

WASHINGTON (R) — Mexican President Miguel de la Madrid's three-day state visit here has strengthened U.S.-Mexican ties, but strong disagreements remain on how to solve conflicts in Central America, according to officials of both nations.

"De la Madrid understands better what Reagan thinks and conversely Reagan understands what De la Madrid is thinking," a senior U.S. official said in assessing the visit.

The official minimised disagreements, saying that the fact "they would say publicly they have differences of opinion is a sign of maturity in the relationship."

Those disagreements were first stressed by Mr. Reagan in an oblique reference to Nicaragua, Cuba and the Soviet Union when he said that peace must be based on "the avoidance of military co-operation with Communist and other aggressive regimes."

Mr. Reagan acknowledged that Washington and Mexico "do not

agree on everything" concerning Central America. However, he said differences were not based on goals or principles but "on the means on which to achieve those goals."

Mr. De la Madrid countered by telling Mr. Reagan that peace in Central America must be restored by "rejecting interventionist solutions of any kind."

Both had the same goals for achieving peace: Democratic pluralism, self-determination, non-intervention, economic progress, the reduction and elimination of foreign military forces, mechanisms against arms trafficking and the prohibition of foreign military bases.

The goals had already been spelled out in the document of 21 objectives drafted by the so-called Contadora Group, of which Mexico is one of four members.

Mr. Reagan told Mr. De la Madrid that Contadora's peace objectives "enunciate the goals we both support."

Germany's SPD starts campaign to regain power

ESSEN, West Germany (R) — West Germany's opposition Social Democrats (SPD), on the first day of their national congress, served notice on Chancellor Helmut Kohl that they aim to put him back on the opposition benches.

The congress opened in Essen Thursday with delegates elected at a policy retreat forced on Mr. Kohl by a revolt in his own centre-right coalition.

SPD parliamentary leader Hans-Jochen Vogel lashed into the 20-month-old centre-right government coalition, accusing it of reactionary policies.

"It is reactionary in talk of preserving peace with ever fewer weapons and at the same time conduct an unbounded arms race," he said in a reference to the deployment in West Germany of new U.S. nuclear missiles.

"It is reactionary to do nothing in the face of unemployment, now at its highest in the history of the republic, while unleashing a massive campaign against unions trying to reduce joblessness," Mr. Vogel said.

Mr. Vogel was commenting on the current labour dispute over a 35-hour week, which the congress supported in a resolution passed

by acclamation. Mr. Kohl's defeat came over plans to grant an amnesty to people who evaded tax on political party donations and was caused by unity in the ranks of the Free Democrats (FDP), who in 1982 abandoned a coalition with the SPD and brought down the then SPD Chancellor Helmut Schmidt.

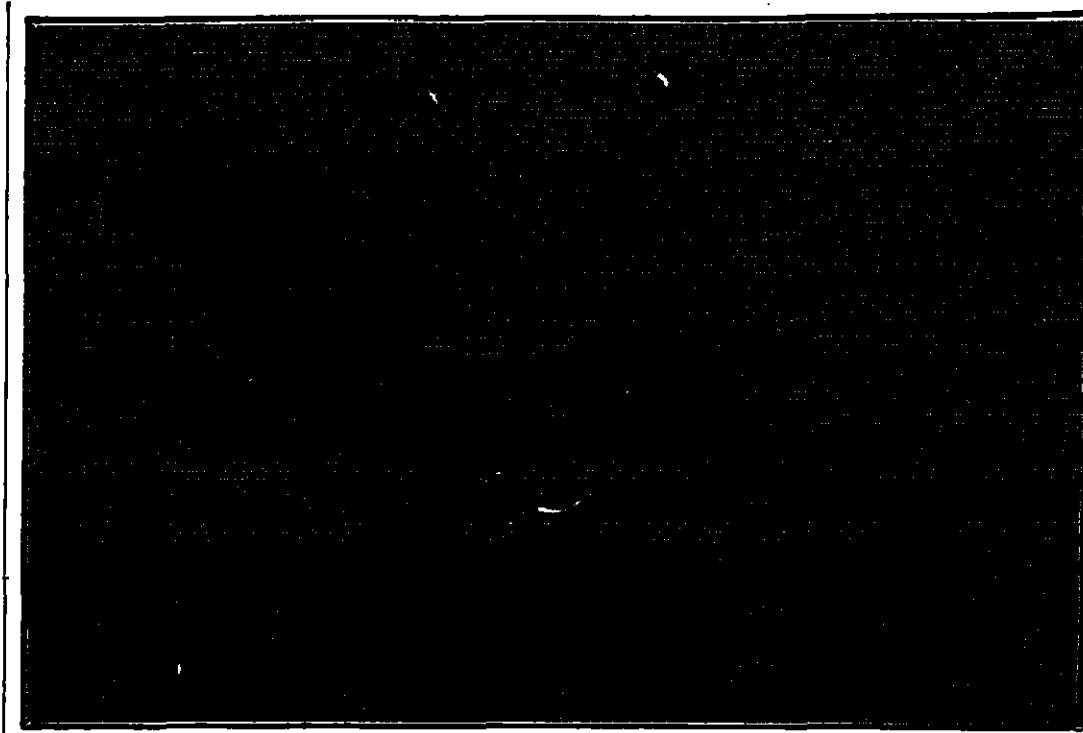
Mr. Vogel linked the affair to recent scandals involving Defence Minister Manfred Wörner and Economics Minister Count Otto Lambsdorff.

"A state which does not have the strength to uncover and remove such abscesses begins to decay. And it rots when it tries to set special laws for the powerful and influential," he said.

Earlier, former Chancellor Schmidt, in his last speech to the party as its deputy chairman, urged the party to reclaim power from the ruling conservatives.

Taking his leave after a quarter of a century on the SPD executive, Mr. Schmidt urged 400 delegates representing over one million party members to go on the offensive.

"For the sake of our social democracy we cannot afford being in opposition too long," he said.



FIRST FLIGHT: Tactical fighter AMX, an Italian and Brazilian joint venture flies Tuesday over Turin, north Italy, in its first ever test flight.

Air forces of both countries will be equipped with the fighters (AP wirephoto)

Congress presses attack on MX missile

WASHINGTON (R) — The U.S. Congress on the MX nuclear missile, a symbol of President Reagan's massive defence buildup, showed no sign of abating Friday.

Democratic Speaker Thomas O'Neill said Thursday the House of Representatives may take another vote next week to try to kill the controversial 10-warhead weapon.

"We haven't given up on MX," he told reporters. The House earlier this week approved construction of 15 of the missiles next year, fewer than half of the 40 requested by Mr. Reagan.

Meanwhile, a key Senate subcommittee Thursday agreed to cut Mr. Reagan's request to 21 missiles next year.

The closed-door decision by the Senate Armed Services panel coupled with Wednesday's House vote approving \$1.8 billion for 15 missiles virtually ensures Mr. Reagan will get no more than half the 40 weapons he sought.

Reagan to launch \$2 n re-election campaign

WASHINGTON (R) — President Reagan's re-election campaign is about to launch a \$2 million television drive portraying America as a land of born-again optimists, far happier than it was under Jimmy Carter.

Scenes of brides blushing at the altar, children gazing at the stars-and-stripes and smiling consumers buying new cars will appear on Monday and run for a week as the first salvo in a re-election publicity blitz.

The commercials credit Mr. Reagan with inspiring every sunny trend from lower prices to happier marriages while never showing him or mentioning his name until the very last line.

Campaign Manager Edward Rollins said Mr. Reagan saw the advertisements Thursday and was "very excited" about them.

He told a press conference the spots, produced with the help of top Madison Avenue advertising executives, would "bombard the airwaves" at popular viewing times.

Mr. Rollins said the Republicans decided to start now because they grew tired of waiting for opposition Democrats to settle on their presidential nominee.

The Democrats are embroiled in a bruising nomination fight between ex-Vice President Walter Mondale and Colorado Senator Gary Hart.

Their advertisements have focused on mutual back-biting, criticisms of Mr. Reagan, claims that war may be near and portrayals of a far gloomier America than the one the president's men have lo-

ated. The Republican 30 and 60-second advertisements are clearly designed to beat the Democrats to the punch in raising a question Mr. Reagan used in his campaign against President Carter in 1980: Are you better off now than you were four years ago?

"It's morning again in America," a narrator says at the opening of one typical spot while background music trills and film shows a schooner leaving harbour in a golden sunrise.

The script goes on: "With interest rates at about half the record highs of 1980, nearly two thousand families today will buy new homes, more than at any time in the past four years."

Another film shows a bride, smiling coyly and getting kissed.

"This afternoon, sixty-five hundred young men and women will be married," says a commentator in the background. With inflation way down, "they can look forward with confidence to the future."

All seven versions of the advertisement have a tag line saying: "Why would we ever want to return to where we were less than four short years ago?" they end with a ordinary, still photograph of the president.

The jovial Rollins waved off questions from sceptical reporters who asked why there were few minorities shown, why foreign policy crises were not mentioned and why the "great communicator" did not appear until the end.

"The great communicator will be involved in future spots," he said.

Tallies show Marcos' candidates winning

MANILA, Philippines (AP) — Independent and government tallies for the first time Friday showed President Ferdinand Marcos party winning a majority of National Assembly races, as Mr. Marcos announced a cabinet revamp.

Opposition leaders, seeing their early leads dwindle but still holding on to an unexpectedly high number of seats on the fifth day of counting, demanded that results be "annulled" in 16 of the Philippines' 73 provinces.

Mr. Marcos asked for routine resignations from his entire cabinet prior to the seating of a new assembly June 30 so he could revamp the government.

He had already said any cabinet member who ran for an assembly seat and lost would also lose his appointed post. Only one, Agriculture Minister Arturo Tanon, has conceded defeat, although three others were running behind.

Mr. Marcos did not require all of them to run.

Previously, government tallies differed widely from an independent count which had showed opposition candidates leading in a majority of reported races.

By late Friday afternoon, the independent National Citizens Movement for a Free Election, with 71 per cent of the votes counted, showed Mr. Marcos' candidates had won or were leading in 48 races, compared to 85 for his opponents.

Only 64 of the 183 races had been declared — 40 winners from Mr. Marcos' party, 22 oppositionists and two independents.

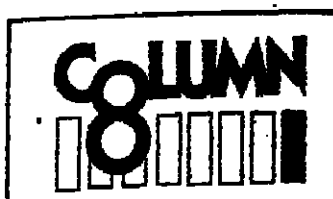
There was no new breakdown from the government side of those running ahead Friday, but the official news agency reported Thursday that Mr. Marcos' New Society Movement was leading in 120 races.

Mr. Marcos said the day after the election he expected to have 140 seats.

"The order has gone out from Malacanang (Marcos' palace) for a change in the results," said Salvador H. Laurel, president of the opposition grouping United Nationalist Democratic Organisation (UNIDO).

Mr. Laurel blamed First Lady and metropolitan Manila Gov. Imelda Marcos for the delay in declaring opposition winners in the city where he claimed 15 of 21 seats. Mrs. Marcos campaigned extensively in Manila.

Mr. Laurel alleged "massive fraud, terrorism and vote buying" marked the voting in 16 of the country's 73 provinces, ranging from Ilocos Sur in the north to Tawi Tawi in the extreme south.



New calculator helps to discover heart attacks

BOSTON (R) — A hand-held calculator which can help doctors decide whether chest pains should be treated for heart attack has been developed by University of California researchers, a medical journal reported.

Writing in the New England Journal of Medicine, Dr. Harry Selker said the calculator could significantly reduce the number of people sent needlessly to coronary care units.

Discovering when a person with chest pain is suffering from a heart attack is a major challenge for doctors. More than half the people admitted to coronary care units had not had heart attacks, and five per cent of those who had were sent home, the magazine said. The researchers developed a formula, using details of pain felt, medical history and electrocardiogram information to determine whether the patient is a heart attack victim.

Court upholds prison term for actress

CAIRO (AP) — An appeals court has upheld a one year prison term and a 500 Egyptian pound fine for actress Magda Al Khaib who was convicted of manslaughter and endangering lives in a traffic case. Cairo newspapers said the court upheld the finding that Mrs. Al Khaib struck and killed a pedestrian and injured another with her car on a bridge between the Cairo district of Zamalek and Giza last year. Mrs. Al Khaib, who is out of the country, was tried and convicted in absentia.

Author Irwin Shaw dies

KLOSTERS, Switzerland (R) — American author Irwin Shaw has died of a heart attack, an employee at his Swiss home said Thursday. He was 71. Mr. Shaw died Wednesday in hospital in the nearby ski resort of Davos, he said. Author of a dozen novels, many of them best-sellers, one of Shaw's best-known works was Rich Man, Poor Man which was recently made into a successful U.S. television series. He also wrote a World War II saga, the Young Lions.

New lorry invented in Switzerland

WUERENLINGEN, Switzerland (R) — Swiss researchers Thursday unveiled a revolutionary hydrogen-powered lorry which emits only steam and air in its exhaust. It is the world's first such vehicle to have been developed as a prototype, officials of the Swiss Atomic Research Institute told reporters.

Carbon monoxide and nitric oxide pollution from conventional automobile exhausts has been widely blamed by scientists for the demise of forests all over Europe. Overall costs are slightly below present petrol prices, project leader Wlaczyslaw Taube said, adding that the main disadvantage is the system's bulk, making it best suited to lorries and buses.

Mr. Taube hoped one fifth of Switzerland's 40,000 commercial vehicles would eventually run on hydrogen. The vehicle has been developed by the Atomic Research Institute here with funds from the Swiss government and private enterprise.

During her eight-day stay, Mrs. Peron described Mr. Alfonsin as "a brilliant president." She urged a voluntary purge of the Peronist leadership saying: "We did not win (the elections) because our leaders failed us."

But the leadership has remained unchanged.

Demonstrators interrupt ballet

LONDON (R) — Anti-Soviet demonstrators campaigning for the release of dissident Andrei Sakharov interrupted the Moscow classical ballet's first performance in Britain Wednesday.

Halfway through the first act at London's Dominion Theatre, a man leapt on stage and called for freedom for the Soviet Nobel Peace Prize winner who is in internal exile in the Soviet Union. Three men and a woman who stood up at the front of the orchestra pit were hustled out by security guards.

One of the demonstrators was taken away in an ambulance. Police were called and the demonstrators removed. Although the curtain came down, the cast kept dancing as the audience booed the demonstrators and the performers were given ovation when the curtain went up again.

The final act of the ballet, The Creation of the World starring Ekaterina Mazimova, prima ballerina of Moscow's Bolshoi Ballet, passed without interruption and there was a 10-minute standing ovation for the cast after the final curtain.

GOREN BRIDGE

BY CHARLES GOREN
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LUCK AND FINE PLAY PRODUCE A SWING

East-West vulnerable. East deals.

NORTH
♠ AKQ53
♥ AK84
♦ 3
♣ Q98

WEST
♠ J987
♥ 92
♦ AK1072
♣ A2

EAST
♠ 42
♥ J1076
♦ QJ5
♣ 107653

SOUTH
♠ 1064
♥ Q53
♦ 9864
♣ KJ4

The bidding:
East South West North
Pass Pass 1 ♦ Pass
1 NT Pass 2 ♦ Dble
Pass 2 ♥ Pass 3 ♥
Pass Pass Pass

Opening lead: Ace of ♦.

System, some bad breaks, and some fine play combined to give the American team a small gain on this deal from the final of the 1983 World Team Championship.

The United States edged Italy by a mere 5 International Match Points to retain the title they had won two years earlier.

In the Italian style of bidding, the second-bid suit tends to be longer than the first, and as a result, poor four-card major suits are often opened. This was the case here and, as a result, Ron Rubin, the American South, ended in a 4-3 fit at

the three-level. Since his only four-card suit had been bid by the opponents, Rubin responded to his partner's takeout double in his cheapest three-card suit.

West led the ace of diamonds, then shifted to the ace of clubs and another. The bidding marked West for four spades and five diamonds, and Rubin was able to make use of this information to land a seemingly impossible contract.

He won the king of clubs in hand, cashed the queen of hearts and crossed to dummy's trump ace. Now he started on spades. East ruffed the second spade and played another diamond, ruffed on the table. Declarer continued with the queen of spades, and East ruffed again — but declarer was in control.

The defender forced dummy with another diamond. Declarer ruffed a spade to set up a long spade in dummy, and he was able to get back to the table with the queen of clubs to cash that spade for his fulfilling trick.

In the other room, the Italians reached the reasonable contract of four spades. However, that contract had to fail when declarer was forced with diamond leads and trumps broke 4-1.